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Contention of the bards
(Irish texts society)

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DOMARBÁŠ NA BFILEADÓ

THE CONTENTION OF THE BARDS

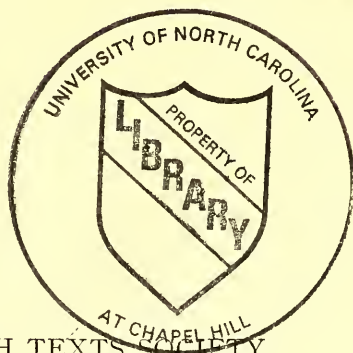
EDITED

WITH TRANSLATION, NOTES, GLOSSARIES, Etc.

BY

REV. L. McKENNA, S.J., M.A.

PART I.



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FOREWORD.


IRISH Scholars and Irish Historians have been long wishing for a critical edition of the *Contention of the Bards*. They felt it a shame and a loss that no considerable body of Bardic poetry should exist in print, and they thought it especially desirable that the *Contention*, which caused such a stir in the Ireland of the early 17th century, should be rescued from the precarious keeping of manuscripts.

In 1911 Mr. Thomas O'Nolan, M.A., undertook the task of publishing the *Contention*, but his early death prevented him from carrying out this, one of the many noble purposes of his life. His widow, Mrs. O'Nolan (Maire de Buitléir), very kindly put the notes of her husband at my disposal, as I was one of his closest friends. Very gladly—though perhaps rashly—I availed myself of the opportunity of testifying my affection and esteem for my dear friend, and of completing, as far as my powers would permit, the work he had begun.

Mr. O'Nolan had already done much of the tedious spadework, having collated many MSS. of i.-ix., xiii.-xvi., xx., xxi., xxiii., xxiv., xxvii.-xxix., and having written a tentative translation of i.-v. 98.

I owe a very special debt of gratitude to Miss Eleanor Knott, who not merely read very carefully all the proof-sheets, but in numerous instances—more numerous even than those where “(K)” indicates her suggestions—gave me the benefit of her wide and accurate scholarship. To her is due practically the whole Appendix (page 255), which, except for considerations of printing expenses, would have been incorporated in the body of the book.

To the Celtic Faculty of the National University, and in particular to Dr. Douglas Hyde and Dr. O. J. Bergin, I am indebted for their kind permission and even encouragement to publish the book, which was presented in the first instance as a Thesis. Also I am indebted to Father J. McErlean, S.J., for many helpful suggestions.



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ABBREVIATIONS.

Acall.	= Acallam na Senórach (Ir. Texte, Ser. iv., Heft. i.).
Contrib.	= Contributions to Irish Lexicography by K. Meyer
O'R.	= O'Reilly's Irish Writers.
K.	= Keating's History (Ir. Texts Soc.).
Z.C.	= Zeitschrift für Celtische Philologie.
K.Z.	= Kühn's Zeitschrift.
M.C.	= O'Curry's Manners and Customs.
4 M.	= Four Masters (O'Donovan).
P.H.	= Passions and Homilies (Atkinson).
B.R.	= Book of Rights (ed. O'Donovan).
Magh Rath	= Battle of Magh Rath (O'Curry).
C.C.C.	= Caithreim Ceallachain Caisil (Bugge, 1905).
C.A.	= Cóir Anmann, Ir. Texte, iii. Ser., ii. Heft.
O'Dav. Gloss.	= In "Three Irish Glossaries" (Stokes).
Fled Bric.	= Fled Bricrend (Ir. Texts Soc., 1899).
A. Clonmac.	= Kilk. Arch. Soc. Jour., N.S.I., 444-460.
Serg. Cuch.	= Serglige Conculaind (Windisch. Ir. Texte).
Mesc. Ul.	= Mesca Ulad (Hennessy, Todd Lect., 1889).
Tec. Corm.	= Tecosca Chormaic (K. Meyer, Todd Lect., 1909).
Toch. Em.	= Tochmarc Emire (K. Meyer, Rev. Celt. xi., 434).

The other abbreviations will be easily understood.

INTRODUCTION.

PART I.

ORIGIN OF "THE CONTENTION."

IN the beginning of the 17th century Tadhg McBrody, chief poet of Thomond, published a poem "Olc do thagrais a Thorna," in which, by way of a criticism of two poems of Torna (fl. 5th century), he challenged the pretensions of the Eremonian clans, especially those of the North, and extolled the Eberian dynasties. A controversy arose between the Court poets of the North and those of the South. This controversy, generally known as "Iomarbhaidh (or "Coinn-tinn") na bhfileadh" caused, to judge from the multiplicity and variety of the MSS., a lively interest everywhere in Ireland.

It is not easy to explain why so many poets joined in the controversy, nor why the dispute caused such a stir through the land. Tadhg's poem cannot have been its cause, but at most its occasion. We know of many earlier poets equally capable in themselves of exciting such a contention. We know of other such controversies which apparently excited little or no stir. (Cf. "Reliquiae Celticae," II., pp. 291-297.)

O'Curry (M.M. 141) says that the contention arose "apparently in consequence of a preconcerted arrangement," and that "its object was to rouse and keep alive the national feeling and family pride of the native nobility." Dr. Hyde ("Lit. Hist." 517) and Miss Hull ("Text Book of I. Lit.," 168) are of the same opinion. It seems hard, however, to read this exalted motive into the poems. The poems of McBrody, notably his Elegy on the 4th Earl of Thomond, would suggest that he had no conception of a national policy of resistance to the foreigner. He mentions approvingly the Earl's exploits at Kinsale! Even supposing that he did perceive the necessity of uniting the Irish chiefs it seems unlikely that one, who in his professional eulogies went out of his way to deny his political convictions, would have been the leading preacher in a poetical crusade for the defence of the old Irish polity. Again, the general tone of the poems does not suggest that the uniting of the country was the motive of their composition. It is true that the poets (for instance, Tadhg, xviii. 5) protest that they do not wish to set tribe against tribe; it is true, too, that a feeling of the essential

union of the Children of Mil is everywhere present, but in nearly every poem the feeling of racial unity is quite subordinate to the desire of extolling one set of Irishmen as against another. McArthur (xiii. 29) and O'Donnell (xxv. 3) alone protest against the controversy as being a disservice to the country. Nowhere in the controversy do we find that scorn and hatred of the foreigner which glows in the writings of many of the poets who lived at the same time. Moreover, the poets expressly state (vi. 273 ; ix. 25, 26, etc.) that it was loyalty to their particular chiefs which urged them to write, and they see the same motive in their adversaries, calling it, of course, by a harsher name (x. 11 ; xxii. 15). The verses, too, found in Egerton 161 (O'Grady, Cat., 617) would seem to show that some of the contemporary poets saw only a foolish local patriotism in the dispute.¹

I imagine that the reason why the controversy created so much excitement among the bards, and throughout the country, was that in the beginning of the 17th century there was established over Ireland a state of peace. This peace, though it was a peace of misery and despair coming after the long fierce turmoil of the Elizabethan times, forced the nation back on her own thoughts, and drove her to seek consolation in the only possession left her, her memories of the past.

O'Curry (MM. 142) attributes to the contention "the renewed study of our ancient literature," inferring this from "the important Irish works which soon followed it, such as those of Keating and the O'Clerys and McFibbis."

There are no means of accurately dating the various poems. The dispute is said by O'Curry to have started about 1604, but O'Donnell's words (xv. 5, 6) would seem to show that Tadhg's first poem was not published till after the death of the Earls, the second of whom died in 1616. It was over before 1624 ; for Tadhg, writing (xxix.) after the contention was over, speaks of Donnchadh, 4th Earl of Thomond (d. 1624), as yet alive.

¹ Luḡairḡ Tairḡ aḡur Tairna 'ollaim oirḡearca ar tairaim
coin iad co n-iomad ḡeara 'aḡ tairḡ fan earair ḡolaim

PART II. THE POETS.

TORNA (generally called "TORNA ÉIGEAS") probably belonged to the district which bears his name, Í Torna (part of which is now "Abbey O'Dorney"), in Co. Kerry. He is said to have there acted as foster-father and tutor to both King Niall of the Nine Hostages and Corc mac Lughaidh, King of Cashel. Five poems are attributed to him: (1) "Gabh mo theagasc a Néill náir" (T.C.D. H. 4. 22), addressed to Niall. (2) "Atá fótsa ri fir find Fáil" (L.U.), on Niall's death. (3) "Mo dhá dhaltán níorsad líúin," a lament for Niall and Corc. (4) "Dáil catha idir Corc is Niall," relating an incident in the careers of the two princes; and (5) "In tan théigmis don dáil" (Y.B.L.), an address to the graveyard where lay King Dá Thí.

O'Curry (MC. ii., 59-71) considers the second and the fifth of these as certainly genuine. About the genuineness of the other three (at least in their present form) he expresses doubts, though he successfully refutes the chronological reasons which O'Flaherty had adduced to prove their spuriousness. O'Flaherty, led astray by a mistake in Keating's History, had argued that Corc must have died before A.D. 378, that he could not, therefore, have lamented Niall (*ob.* A.D. 405) or Dá Thí (*ob.* A.D. 428), and that he could not have been a Christian, as the poem represents him.

The third and fourth of the above poems are found in nearly all MSS. of the "Contention." On this account, and also because it was Tadhg McDaire's attack on them, especially on the latter of them, which occasioned the dispute, I have included them (i., ii.) in the poems of the "Contention." "Dáil catha . ." is sometimes ascribed to Torna O'Mulconry (*ob.* 1468). O'Grady (Cat. 345) suggests that McDáire prefixed it to his poem, not fraudulently, but as a suitable rhetorical argument.

TADHG MAC BRUAIDEADHA (*ang.* Brody, Brodin) generally called from his father's name, Tadhg Mac Daire, belonged to the family which had since 1563 provided the professional bard to the O'Briens of Thomond. He succeeded in this office to Domhnall McDaire, probably his brother (O'Curry, RIA. Ac. Cat., p. 393). O'Flanagan (Trans. Gael. Soc., 1808) states that Tadhg was born in 1570, that as bard of Thomond he held the castle of Dunogan (Bar. Ibrickan, Co. Clare), and that in 1652 he was murdered by a Cromwellian soldier who threw him over a cliff, saying, "ἀβαιρ το ραιονν ανοιρ α फिर विस." In a book entitled "Responsio veridica ad illotum libellum cui nomen est Anatomicum Examen P. Antonii Bruodini Hiberni OSF. a Rdo. Domino Thoma Carve Tipperariensi Sacerdote et Proto-notario Apostolico Viennae commorante. Solisbaci, 1672," we find, p. 124, "Et ego hisce meis oculis viderim

Thadaeum Bruodinum filium Darii (Teigue Mac Dary) familiae caput (psoricum profecto) sine equo sine carro aut curru (nisi quod obvio cisio rustico vehebatur cum rustico lubebat), sine veste quae decem valeret florenos iter facientem, quod de O'Briennis cogitare nefas esset." (Cf. O'Grady, Cat. 388).

The above is all the information we have about McBrody's life. Of his poems, besides those here printed, we possess 16 others, about 2,000 lines. Their initial lines are :—"Δ μακάριον ῥέαναρ μο ῥέαρ," "Μόρι ἀτά ἀρ τεσσάρτς ῥάτα," "Μο δειτρε ῥαῖνν διuit Δ Ὀννέαρ," "Θαρῖαρ ῤαοῖοι εἰς εἰνῆρ," "Μαλ ἀν δειτῖρρε ἀρ Ὀννέαρ," "Ἀνοῖρ διολαμ ἀν ὀεσῖνάρ," "Νι τῤάτ ὄσο διτ ἀ Ὀῤαμυρ," "Ἰαιῖνεαδ ῤῖν Δ Ὀῖνν Κοῤαδ," "Ταῖρῤῖο μο ῥεσῖνάρ Δ ῥιολ μῖρμιν," "ῤοῖρῤῖο μο λειῖρε Δ λεατ Ὀῖνν," "Ὀεανάρ κοῖννῤῖο Δ Ὀῖλνν Ὀῖνν," "Τεαῖλαδ ῥαῖτῖρ ῤῖνε Ὀῖνν," "Ὀῖννῤῖρ ῥῤῖοτ ῥεῤῖνν λῖρῖνε," "Δ ἐῤῖοτ Ὀε ὀεῖνε μο λειῖρε," "Ὀεανάρ ῤο ῤῖνῖαδ ῥιολ Ἀῖνν," "ῤοῖα ῤαδ βεατα βειτ βοετ," "Ὀοβ ῥεῤῖρ μο ῥεσῖν Δ ῤῖτε." The first four are to, or about, his patron, the fourth Earl of Thomond. The second four are about the O'Briens. There is practically no information to be got from these poems as to the life of the poet, except that his cattle were seized by the Northern chiefs on one of their incursions into Thomond. Another poem, "Δοῖρῖς ὁ Ὀῖρ ἡδ ἐῤῖν ῥεῖν," is given in Eriu viii. 83 as being in the Book of the O'Conor Don.

LUGHADH O CLERY belonged to the family which gave bards to the O'Donnells since 1492. In 1595 he succeeded, as head of his clan, and as ollamh of the O'Donnells, to his father Mac Con O'Clery. His mother was a Southern (xvi. 40, xx. 11). He, with his cousin Michael, was educated in the South by Baothghalach McAodhagáin (Intro. to Michael O'Clery's Gloss. Rev. Celt., iv.), and possibly also by Tadhg McBrody (ix. 6). He died in 1630. His other extant works are :—The Life of Aodh Ruadh O Domhnaill (Rev. D. Murphy, Dublin, 1893), and a fragment of an Elegy on Baothghalach McAodhagáin (Rev. Celt. iv.). For an account of his family v. Intro. to FM.

SEAN O CLERY, the author of poem xxviii., and also of "Cia do bhearras ar Bhreifne" (O'R. clvi.) is not further known to us.

BAOTHGHALACH MCAODHAGÁIN's family was of the Cinel Fiacha, and was situated originally in W. Meath. Members of it are mentioned in FM. as ollamhs of Breifni, and as Brehons of O Conor Don and O Conor Faly. In the early 17th century they are found scattered over Cork, Limerick, Kerry, Wexford, Tipperary, King's Co., Queen's Co., Leitrim, Longford, Galway, Sligo, Roscommon. Elizabeth's Fiants mention a McEgan as brehon in Co. Galway. There were Bally-mac-Egans in Co. Tipperary, Queen's Co. and Co.

Longford. Our poet was master of the Bardic school in Ormond at which Michael and Lughaidh O Clery (as Michael tells us) received their poetic education. No other poems of Baothalach are extant.

ANLUAN MCAODHAGAIN, author of poem xxv., and of "Is breagach sin a bhean" (RIA.), is not further known to us.

MATHGHAMHAIN O HIFERNAIN (Mahon O Heffernan) is author of xi., of "Ceist cia do chimeochadh dán" (ed. and trans. by O. Bergin, *Irish Rev.*, April, 1913), and of two other extant poems, "caoin thu fein a dhuine bhoicht" (*Reliquiae Celticae* I., 126) and "a mhic na meabhruigh eigse" (O'Grady, *Cat.* 392; O'Connor Don's *Book*, cf. *Eriu*, viii., 82). He may be the Mahon O Hiffernan given in the *Fiants* as a "rimer," apparently in Co. Cork. Most of the name were to be found about Sronill, Co. Tipp.

DR. ROBERT MCARTHUR, O.S.F., is mentioned in Tadhg O Cianain's story of the Flight of the Earls as meeting the Earls at Douai (*Archiv. Hib.* II., App. 37). Fr. P. Walsh quotes (l.c.) from "Information of Sir Neale O Donnell, 7 Aug., 1606." "Robert McArthur, S.J., is now in England, and doth from thence advertise the Earls of all occurrences." There was almost certainly no Jesuit of the name, and the man here referred to was probably our poet. All the MSS. of the *Contention* refer to him as Robert McArthur, O.S.F. and Doctor of Theology. One of them (RIA. St. B. iv. 4) superscribes Poem xiii. "Brathair Daithitt, etc.," perhaps his name in religion. RIA. 23. G. 13 states that his poems were written in Louvain. In the "Report on Franciscan MSS. in Convent on Merchants' Quay" mention is made (in reference to the tumult at the Convent in 1629) of a Mr. Robert Arthur, but one would not gather from the context that he was a member of the community. There is no record of any Franciscan of the name of McArthur. Fr. E. Hogan, S.J., suggests that McArthur is an assumed name, and that our poet was Dr. Robert Chamberlain, O.S.F. This seems highly probable. Fr. Chamberlain was a Northern by birth (cf. xvi. 101), a Doctor in Theology (cf. xiv. 34), was well versed in the Irish language, lived in Louvain where he taught Theology for 18 years (1608-1626), and was devoted to the cause of the Earls (Report on MSS. in Merchants' Quay Convent, A.D. 1626, 27, 29, 30; Brennan, Vol. I., 285).

MAC DIARMUDA, author of xxvi., was Brian Og (xxvii. 11). He came of age in 1617, and was re-granted much of the land taken in 1603 from his father Brian. He married Margaret de Burgo, d. of Earl of Clanrickard, died in 1636, and was buried at Clonmacnoise (K. James' Army List, D'Alton).

ART ÓG O CAOIMH (O Keefe) says (xxvii. 10) that he is related to the O Briens. Beyond this we know nothing of him. Perhaps

he was the Art og (Mac Airt mhic Dhomhnaill) O Caoimh, chief of his name, inaugurated in 1583, who is mentioned in Fiants as living in Dromagh Castle (Bar. Duhallow, Co. Cork), mentioned in FM. 1582, 1583, and whom O Daly satirised (Tribes of Ireland, O'Donovan). No other poems of his are known to me. He is not to be confounded with Art (Mac Eoghain) O Caoimh who flourished at a later date.

FEAR FEASA ÒN CHAINTÉ may be the Farfassie O Cauty, who with Katherine Ny Daly, his wife, is mentioned in the Fiants as living at Curribordy, Co. Tipp. (?), in 1601. Besides x. and xxii. some other poems of his are extant—"Bean dā cūma cpioc Ealla," "Cionnur meire a mhic Eoḡain," "Cpéao dā realbainn dām an dān," "Mór an fíeróm deilb an dāna," "Mór roir na ham-rearab," "A fíaoḡail ón a fíaoḡail," "Mór do nío daoine oib fém," "Leo fém cúirto clann ita"—all in RIA., and the two last printed in O'Grady, Cat., 555, and Miscell. of Celt. Soc., 1849.

EOGHAN MCCRAITH also belonged to a bardic family. In the Fiants, 1573, there is a pardon for "John McEnas McCragh rymer of Ballyogurty, Co. Wat.," who may be our man, but the name was common in Co. Tipperary and Co. Waterford. Besides xii. he wrote "Cuḡao an t-ár-ra ar Éirinn." Two poems, "Cuḡ dom aipe a linnre an laoiḡ," "Teac carao do cúí folam," sometimes ascribed to him are more probably by Maolin Og Mac Bruaideadha and Goffraidh Fionn O Dalaigh respectively. Another Eoghan McCraith, surnamed "an t-orrthoir," flourished 1400.

AODH O DOMHNAILL tells us that his father's mother was daughter of O'Brien (xv. 41), and that when writing xv. he was an old man (xv. 11). He is addressed xxvii. 10, "Aodh og" (i.e., son of another Aodh) and "Ua" (i.e., head, or pretender to headship of clan). These indications fix him with fair certainty as Aodh brother of Manus, and therefore grand-uncle of the famous Red Hugh. His grandfather, Aodh Ruadh, married Fionnghuala d. of Connchobhar na srona O Briain, Lord of Thomond, 1466-1496 (cf. FM. 1474; O'Donoghue's Hist. of O'Briens, 146), and in 1598 he was living in his castle at Rathmelton, and "challengeth a title to the whole cuntrye" (Descript. of Ireland, 1590; Hogan; Fiants, etc.). As his father died in 1537 he would have been old in 1616. The FM. mention him 1564, 1592, 1600. For eulogies on him cf. Life of Red Hugh (Murphy, pp. 58, 187, 249). It was probably on him that the fine poem by Fearghal Og Mac an Bhaird, "Ní trath aithreachais d'fhuil Chonuill," was written, though O'Curry in describing this poem seems to gather, I know not whence, that the subject of it pre-deceased his father and would not therefore be our poet.

TOIRDHEALBHACH O BRIAIN of Cathair Mionáin (Bar. Corcomroe, Co. Clare), was son of Murchadh, who was a younger brother of the 2nd Earl of Thomond (K. iv. p. 49; Fiants). No other poems of his are extant, nor is anything beyond a reference in FM. 1591 known to us of his life.

PART III.

MANUSCRIPTS.

The following are the MSS. consulted :—

MSS.	SCRIBE.	DATE.	REFERRED TO AS
Maynooth Cu.	B. O Cuirnin	1712	C
" B	? Co. Clare	1712	B ⁵
" K	?	?	K ³
" R	?	?	R ²
T.C.D. H iv. 4	Aodh O Dalaigh	1725 (Dial)	T ¹
H. i. 17	?	(only xxviii.)	T ²
H. i. 7	Michael O Longain	(Dial)	T ³
H. iv. 15	?		T ⁴
Dr. Hyde's MSS.	? Dublin	1744 (Dial)	Y
Stonyhurst MSS.	O Caoimh		X
Univ. Coll. Dub.	?	(Dial)	Z
RIA. St. A. iv. 4	Dom. O Dubhgenan	1724	S ¹
St. A. iv. 3.	?		S ⁵
B. iv. 1	Dan. O Dubhgenan	1671 (Dial)	S ²
A. v. 1	Lughaidh O'Clery (?)	(Dial)	S ³
C. vi. 3	E. O Dubhgenan	1633 (?) or 1700 ? (Dial)	S ⁴
24 P. 24		1700	R.
24 P. 13	Niall O Cionga	1621 (only iv. viii.)	P
23 A. 30	Jas. Maguire	?	A
A 46	S. O hAoidh	1825	A ²
B 13	M. Mahony	1822	B ¹
B 16	Pat. Downey	1821	B ²
B 24		1837 (Dial)	B ³
B 37	M. O Curry	1822	B ⁴
C 31		(Dial)	C ²
D 5	Sean McSolam	1714 (Dial)	D
D 6	R. Tipper	1713 (Dial)	D ²
F 16	Fergal O Gara	1659	F
G 1	Art O Caoimh	1709	G

MSS.	SCRIBE.	DATE.	REFERRED TO AS
G 8	T. O Neachtain	1711 (Dial)	G ²
G 13	S. O Cleary, Co. Cavan	1836	G ^v
G 23	Mich. óg O Longain	1821	G ⁴
H 18	Will. Curtin	1702	H
H. 21	Varii	1752 (Dial)	H ²
H 25	Tomas McDomhnaill	1783 (Dial)	H ³
I 6			I
K 6	Mich. óg O Longain	1834 (Dial)	K ²
K 13		17—	K
K 45	Seamus McUidhir	1746	K ²
L 3	Sean O Connaill	1824 (Dial)	L
L 26	C. McDomhnaill	(Dial)	L ²
L 37	John Stack	1709	L ³
L 29	W. Christopher	1767	L ⁴
M. 22	P. O Conchobhair	1776 (Dial)	M
M 24	Ed. O Reilly's son	18—	M ²
N 11	Mich. óg O Longain	176—	N
N 13	Mich. óg O Longain	176- (Dial)	N ²
E 15	Mich. óg O Longain	1797	E
E 16	Mich. óg O Longain	1799	E ²

Not all of the above have been collated, but all have been consulted in searching for good texts.

Of the MSS. which can be dated, only two (and they of poor quality and containing only a few of the poems) date from the 17th cent., and nearly a half are as late as the 19th cent., while there is every reason to believe that the undated MSS. are not older than the rest. This is most unfortunate. All these poems are written in the old Bardic measures by men trained in the Bardic schools. Now, these schools were broken up in the 17th cent., when the old Irish civilisation was being crushed. After the break up of these schools the scientific and elaborate training which used to be given in them was nowhere to be had. In the later part of the 17th cent. the rules and traditions of Bardic poetry were beginning to be forgotten, and in the 18th cent. had become a vague memory, though even then isolated individuals still preserved some knowledge of them and some skill in their handling. Yet, though skill and knowledge were rare, good-will was abundant, and great numbers of men followed the Scribe's profession, anxious to preserve the literature of their race. Many families in various parts of the land devoted their members to this profession. These scribes not being scientifically trained in the old metres were careless of the niceties

of aspiration, eclipsis, accentuation, etc. Moreover, mere boys seem to have been put to copy MSS. Also, I think, there are traces of MSS. being written from dictation, as one sometimes finds two variants, one of which would if read sound almost the same as the other, but would give a different sense.

For these reasons, and for others given below, it is not strange that the MSS. of these poems should vary very considerably. A glance at the variants (of which it would have been impossible and needless to make an exhaustive list) will show how great liberties were taken by the scribes.

These differences are of various kinds.

A. As to the number of poems in the "Contention." Some MSS. give most of the poems here collected, others only some of them. There was evidently no recognised "canon." One sometimes meets in the MSS. a note, "I have not found the answer to this poem," as if the scribe had been gathering the different poems from various sources. Indeed it is not certain that we have here all the poems that were written in the "Contention." Some passages (e.g., in xxiii. and perhaps vii. 16) seem to refer to poems of which we have no record.

B. The MSS. differ in the length of a given poem. In certain poems, which are evidently answers to a preceding one, there are passages (vi. 263, etc.) whence one could infer that we have not the preceding one in its complete form. Of some of the poems, notably xv., there were evidently two rival versions.

C. The MSS. differ as to the order of the poems. The "Contention" as a whole consists of four distinct controversies—(a) Tadhg v. L. O'Clery, iii.-ix. (b) Tadhg v. McArthur, xiii., xiv., xvi. (c) Tadhg supported by O'Brien and O'Keefe v. O'Donnell and McDermott, xv., xvii.-xix., and xxvi.-xxvii. (d) Tadhg v. the McEgans, xx.-xxi., xxiii.-xxv.

There are, besides, four poems the relations of which are hard to establish. There are, then, the two poems of Torna and three concluding ones which do not strictly speaking belong to the "Contention" as such.

The poems belonging to the same controversy are generally placed together in the MSS., but the order in which these controversies are placed varies considerably. The four isolated poems occur in all kinds of positions, so that the MSS. are useless for determining their proper places.

A peculiarity of some MSS. is that in some cases where one poem answered another the two poems are written together, each point as it is made being immediately followed by its answer. The poems so arranged are—iv., v.; xiii., xiv.; xv., xviii.; xxiii., xxiv.

Each of these pairs, where it occurs, reads like a dialogue, and I have placed " (Dial.) " after the MSS. in which this arrangement is found. (Cf. *supra*.) It is to be noted, too, that in each such pair of poems the Southern one comes after the Northern, and, moreover, that the Southern poem is always Tadhg Mac Bruaideadha's. Most of the late MSS. adopt this Dialogue order, but the best MSS., even though of fairly late date (such as 23 K 45), do not. This would suggest that the Dialogue arrangement was adopted by a Southern, who wished to bring out with extra force the Southern case against the Northern. As the choice of arguments thus juxtaposed, and the order in which they are placed, is the same in all the MSS. where the Dialogue arrangement is found, I infer that some one person adopted the plan, and that his plan was followed by the scribes generally. Probably this person was not Tadhg himself, as in that case it would be found in all the MSS.

D. There are, of course, in all MSS. numerous variants caused by the negligence or fatigue of the scribes.

E. There is constant diversity in the way in which the MSS. in the case of a given word employ the various forms of it which were the stock in trade of the professional *file* and were meant to be used by him as best suited his verse.

In this connection it is to be noted that the Debhidhe poems forming nearly the whole of the "Contention" are of two distinct classes. The first consists of those of an argumentative nature. In them the poets use a loose form of "Debhidhe" which allows them to write fast and at their ease. The second are in strict Debhidhe and present their thoughts in a condensed and involved fashion. The grammatical variants are naturally more numerous in the first of these classes. The loose metre allowed the scribe to substitute an easier phrase for a more difficult one, to substitute one name or epithet for another, perhaps in order to show off his learning, and to choose among the various grammatical forms familiar to him the one which he thought more correct or more antique, etc. The poems in stricter metre being more difficult to understand inspired perhaps somewhat of a hieratic awe, though they, too, have not escaped without some changes. Their metre, however, generally serves to show the correct reading.

F. There are the variants, more strictly so called, by which the sense is more or less materially altered.

The last two classes of variants caused much perplexity. On what principle was a text to be chosen?

Age was no guide. None of the MSS. are very old. Only two are 17th cent. MSS. and they are poor and avail only for a few poems.

Mere weight of numbers was of little importance either. Many of the MSS. are copies of others, or at least come from a common source and agree in evident blunders. I strove to establish the relationship between several MSS., but found this of little use.

The principle which appeared to be best was to examine the accuracy with which the strict-metre poems were written in the various MSS., and then to assume (though it was not a quite sure assumption) that the other poems would be treated with the same degree of conscientiousness. According to this principle C, K², A, seemed to be the best, and where they were available I have never, I think, departed from them in any important matter without noting the fact. Where these failed, I followed what I thought the next best.

G. There are the variants which affect mere spelling, that is, those in which no grammatical differences are involved. In this respect not merely do MSS. differ from each other, but each MS. differs from itself in the one page, or even in the one stanza. As therefore fidelity to the MSS. (differing from each other) was impossible, and as fidelity to a particular MS. would have led to a senseless and most irritating variety and to considerable difficulty in forming a glossary, I thought it advisable to aim at a certain uniformity in some points which were of no linguistic importance. Between the alternatives offered, namely the newer and the older form, I have thought it better, the authority of the MSS. being about equal on either side, to adopt the newer. To adopt the older would have been to add, at least in some slight degree, to the difficulties of those who are accustomed only to the modern forms of the language.

I have therefore written *ea* for *io* in short unstressed syllables, except when riming with accented *io* (though even then I might have done better to write *ea*, as the sound is quite indeterminate). *é* followed by a broad consonant I have generally written *éa*, though the MSS. use *ea*, *éu*, *eu*, *é* indifferently. I have written the preposition *in* instead of *a* *n*-, availing myself of the freedom offered by the MSS. I have written *ȝc*, *oτ*, etc., for *cc*, *ττ* where these forms represent eclipsis, and have substituted *o*, *ȝ*, *b*, for *ττ*, *cc*, *pp*, where the latter are mere archaic equivalents of the former.

PART IV.

METRE AND GRAMMAR.

There are three kinds of metres (all of seven syllables) used.—(1) Strict Debhidhe (vii.-xii., xx.-xxv., xxix.-xxx.). (2) Loose Debhidhe (i.-vi., xiii.-xviii., xxvi., xxviii.). (3) Rannaidheacht Mhor (xix., xxvii.).

N.B.—(1) Loose Debhidhe is not a degenerate form of Strict Debhidhe, but is found in the early 15th century.

(2) Many words, chiefly adverbs,¹ may be divided up to establish alliteration. An infixed Pronoun with its supporting particle is treated as *iarmbearla*, also the *a* of *a-œirþum*, *a-τᾶ*, etc. Diphthongs in foreign words may be treated as dissyllables (ii. 54; iv. 15; v. 42; vi. 76; xvi. 5. 122).

In Loose Debhidhe, Rime is used as in the older poetry, i.e. :—

(1) Any of the following can rime with each other, *p*; *c*; *τ*; *pp*; *cc*; *ττ*; *p, c, τ*, joined with *p, c, τ, b, s, v, l, n, m*: e.g., *œuic, tabairc; leac, ceairc; oic, oadonnaic; coic, ioic*; etc.

(2) *b, s, v, p, c, τ, b, s, v, l, n, m, ll, nn, rr, m, nſ* form only one class for riming purposes, i.e., any of them rimes with any other single or doubled; and any group of two rimes with any other group of two. (*b*, however, does not rime with *v, s* with *s, v* with *v, m* with *m*.)

(3) *r* can rime with *v, s, v*, etc. (xiv. 22, xv. 11, etc.)

N.B.—Sometimes even the above rules are infringed (vi., 68, etc.). Even a vowel sometimes rimes with a vowel and consonant (xxviii., 5, 13, 49). Rime being so understood, the following are the chief rules in Loose Debhidhe :—

(1) Final words of *a*² and *c* rime with final words of *b* and *d* respectively.

(2) Final word of *d* (and sometimes of *b*) is a syllable longer than the final word of the preceding line. Rime in these cases begins with the last stressed syllable of *c* (or *a*), i.e., the final monosyllable of *c* (or *a*) rimes with the second syllable of the final dissyllable in *d* (or *b*); the final dissyllable of *c* (or *a*) rimes with the last two syllables of the final trisyllable in *d* (or *b*). Sometimes final stressed syllable of *a* (or *c*) rimes with final of trisyllable in *b* (or *d*). Cf. iii. 10, 19, etc

¹ e.g. *amáin, anonn, anall, anoir, arír, aráile, imáille, imaradon, iomoirra, amioð, ané*, etc.

² *a, b, c, d*, denote the four lines of the stanza.

(3) Alliteration, though sought after and common, is not necessary.

(4) There is no Internal Rime.

(5) The functions of *iarmbearla*, eclipsis and aspiration are the same as in Strict Debhidhe.

(6) In each stanza the sense is complete. After the first couplet there is a pause in the construction.

N.B.—xvi. does not observe Rule 2 or 5.

In the two Rannaigheacht poems the looser form of rime is observed. The rule that the final word of a poem must repeat at least a part of the first stressed word is not observed in xi., xii., xxiv., though these poems are in Strict Debhidhe.

SOME COMMON VARIANTS.

Vowels unstressed: o=á=u. amur, -or, -ar; canar, -ur. á=ui=eí. oirðairc, -ei-, -ui-; éirre, -rí.

Vowels accented: o=á. tol, tal; fíorac, fíac; bolg, ba; oigéan, ai-; roga, ía-; coḡail, ca-; folá, ía-. o=u. orra, ur; orramac, ur-, orbrúinne, ur-; ḡoin, ḡu-; olca, u-; fíocaim, fiu-; etc. ó=á. ḡlór, ḡlár; cóir, cá-; do cóir, do cá-. ó=u. ríog, ríuag. ó=ú. cóigead, cú-. ú=ao. túrḡa, caor-. í=eí. m(e)irge; b(e)inn; n(e)im. oi=eí. oile, ei-,

Consonants broad and slender: corḡaim, corḡim; cuirim, curaim; rannaim, rannim; coḡlaim, coḡlim; ró(í)r(e)ar; fúlaimḡim, fúilḡim, fúlaimḡaim; forbúte, forbúta; l(á)igín; cr(o)rúe; t(o)ig; mionca, meince.

Consonants aspirated and non-aspirated: ionao, -ò; ácao, -ò.

Liquids, Single and Double: meapbal(l); coigil(l).

Varia: luac, -g; teac, -g; caic, -g; comirce, -ge, -ge, -ce; féagaim, -c-, -g-; anacail, -g-; iomairbár, -g; blaò, -g; ríot, -ò; tñúca, -ò; cumal, -b-; Éimír, -b-; fíobad, -m-; préam, ír-; (f)uarán; (f)éilim; (f)éoir; (f)anam; (n)uimír.

Nasalisation is very carelessly observed by the scribes. The following are a few examples of cases in which it was regularly used by the poets from the 13th to the 17th century, an éinní, xxi. 5; an ḡcéaona, iv. 47; an oircaò, xvi. 120; an ḡcáin, vi. 236; an airorug, vi. 203; urcár n-íomruil, xxiii. 18; mair nloct, xv. 56; móir n-oircaò, xxv. 9; fan poinn ḡcáilrò, xxii. 7; na ḡcáinn n-íomuir, xvi. 78; rúl ó ḡcuinn, xxv. 5.

Irrational nasalisation is very common, and probably for the most part due to the scribes.

NOUNS.

For variations in declensions of nouns, adjectives, vid. Voc. sub. :
 Δὐδ, ἀίτ, αἰτνε, ἀοιῦ, βάρῳ, βράιτρεαρ, βρεατ, βυαῖρῳ, céαορφαῖρῳ,
 conélann, conφαῖρ, ὠάλ, Θεαῖδ, θεαῖβ, ὠαρ, ὠιγε, εαῖατ, εαρρ,
 ἔιρε, εἰγρε, εἰρ, Εοῖαῖρῳ, φέρουμιῖρῳ, φατα, φιαῖαῖρῳ, φιλε, ῥαῖρῳ,
 ιομαρῥ, λᾶ, λεατ, λυῖαῖρῳ, μεανμα, μεαρβαλλ, νάρ, νυα, ρανν, ραρ,
 ταοῖ, Τεαῖαῖρ, τοτ, τορὰτ, τρμαῖ.

The Nom. can be used for Voc. It also can be used for Gen. of Proper names, also sometimes for Gen. of Common nouns. Cf. v. 35, 57, 177.

ADJECTIVES.

Notice βιννίτττ, xxviii. 43, "as sweet"; νίορ ὁ., "younger," xvi. 35; νίορ μῶ, νί ἀρ μῶ, νίρὰ μῶ; μóm (?) xxvii. 17. Predicate adj. with copula sometimes agrees with subject, i. 1; ii. 41; viii. 31.

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES.

Notice ἀρ ὠά ποῖαν, xix. 8; xiv. 70; ἀ ὠά mbeαῖαῖρῳ, etc., v. 83; 122; xxviii. 37; but cf. vi. 50, 59; xiv. 34.

NUMERALS.

ὠά masc. and fem. aspirates (in Gen. often no affection in MSS., v. 183; vi. 37); in neut. it eclipses. Notice ὠάνα, οἰβιοναῖβ, ὠέρθε, ὠαρ, ἀ ὠῶ ὠιοῖβ, vi. 49.

Τρῖ η- (cf. Ir. Gr. Tr. § 18.) Notice ἀ τρῖ, vi. 183; numῖττ τρῖτ, xiv. 27; τεορτα, xv. 57; τρέρθε. ῥυρ ἀη ὠεῖτ, vi. 184; ρεαῖτ ποεῖτ πο . . , vi. 189; ὠά φῖαῖρῳ, xv. 66; xxviii. 28; ὠά φῖαεα, xvi. 120, 121; φα ὠῶ, ἐρῖ, etc.

PERSONAL PRONOUNS.

Ει-ρέιν, xxiv. 14, etc.; ιρε, iv. 36; v. 93; ρῖνν, ἰνν, ρῖονν, ἰονν, ρῖβ, ἰβ, ἰαῖρ, ἰαῖρ-ρέιν.

INFIXED PRONOUNS.

Sg. I. ὠom ἐμᾶῖρῳ, ii. 53; ποm αἰτ, xxiv. 7; ὠm ρῖοῖνντεαρ, xxiv. 8 (?).

2. ποῖο εῖττ, xvi. 196; πορ ὠαλλ, xvi. 135 (?).

3. πορ ὠῖαεανν, etc., vi. 134, 257; xvi. 163; xxv. 4; xxviii. 39; ποῖο εῖττ, v. 92.

Pl. 3. πορ ἰῖῥ, ix. 28.

PRONOUNS, PRONOMINAL ADJECTIVES, etc.

Vid. Voc. sub. ἀραῖτε, ἀραῖλλ, cé, ceαῖταρ, ἐρέαῖρ, ῥαῖτ, ῥῖβε, naῖτ, neαῖτ.

RELATIVE.

Construction as explained in Three Shafts. Introd.

N.B.—*ιρα*, xvi. 194 ; *απορι* *πε* *α* *υνν* *ταρτα*, vi. 74.

SUFFIXED PARTICLES.

ει-ρειν, *ιαυ-ρειν*, *να* *υερω-ρειν*, xxii. 18 ; *ορμα*, -*ωε* (?), xi. 3. -*ne* (1 Pl.) palatalises preceding syllable.

ρο, *ρό*, *δο*, *υο*, *ροιν*, when stressed can retain these forms even after palatal endings.

VERBS.

Certain forms are used indifferently as suits verse or preference of poet, e.g. :—

Conj. and abs. forms of 3 Pl. Pres. Ind. or Subj., and of Passives, *αιο*, *αο*, *εαο*, *ιο* ; *αιρ*, *αρ*, *εαρ*, *ιρ*.

Short and long forms of 1st and 2nd. Pl. Primary and Secondary tense, and of 3rd. Pl. Secondary tenses, *μαο*, *μαοιο*, *μιο*, *μιο* ; *μαιρ*, *μαιορ*, *μιορ*, *μιορ* ; *υαιρ*, *υαιορ*, *υιορ*, *υιορ* ; *τα*, *ταοι*, *τε*, *τι*.

Conj. and Abs. forms of Pret. 3 Sg., 1st, 2nd, 3rd Pl. *ρταρ*, *ρταρ* ; *μαρ*, *μαιρ* ; *υαρ*, *υαιρ* ; *ταρ*, *ταιρ*.

REGULAR VERB.

Imper. Sg. 2. *ρεαο*. 3. *ειρεαο*. Pl. 1. *ρσυρμα*, ix. 11. 2. *βαναρ*, x. 8. 3. *αναρ*, xviii. 7. Ps. *αομανταρ* (?), x. 8.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. *αναιμ*, *φιλμ*. 2. *ιαβρα*, *ιαβραι-ρε*, *αιρμ(ε)ι-ρε*. 3. *ελαορ*, xviii. 119 ; *ελαοελαρ*, xxix. 21 ; v. 114 ; vi. 16, 263 ; xiii. 9 ; -*μαιρ*, i. 13 ; -*επερ*, vi. 66 ; -*αν*, xiii. 34 ; v. 43, 110 ; xviii. 141 ; form in -*nn*, -*βαναν*, vi. 65 ; xv. 15. Pl. 1. *μολμυο* ; -*εεταμ*, ix. 11 ; xxiv. 25. 2. *μαορωτι*, xvi. 8 ; -*μεαρταοι*, xvi. 14 ; xviii. 118 ; ix. 9 ; xvi. 53 ; -*τειρω*, viii. 4. 3. *αναρ*, *φιλιο*. Rel. *υεαρυαρ*, *αιρμαρ*. Ps. *ταιγτιρ*, *μολταιρ*, *υλιγταρ*.

Imperf. Sg. 1. -*αιρμιν*, -*ιαβραιν*. Pl. 1. -*ταμματαρ*. Ps. *υο* *ρεανταοι*.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. *μαορυεαρ*, iv. 57. 2. *τεανα*, *επερτε*. 3. *τειρε*, -*αγρα*. Pl. 1. -*ιαβραμ*, vi. 34 ; -*τουτταμ*, xvi. 199. 2. -*ειρταοι*, vi. 137. 3. *φιονναρ*, xiv. 35. Ps. -*τειγταρ*, v. 84, 121.

Subj. Past. Sg. 1. -*ρεαοαιν*. 2. -*μεαρτα*, -*ειρταε*. 3. -*μωραο*, vi. 192. Pl. 2. -*ειρταοι*, v. 150. Ps. -*τεανταοι*, *τειγτε*.

† Fut. Sg. 1. *ανραο* ; *ειρραο* ; -*ειρμω*, xxvii. 17 ; -*τεανω*, vi. 260 ; iv. 4 ; v. 47 ; vi. 4 ; viii. 14 ; ix. 4 ; xiv. 34. 2. *ταιγρε*, -*ταιγρε*. 3. *μαιρρω*, xxix. 30 ; -*τειγρε*, ix. 29 ; -*ουαττα*. Pl. 1. *ειρμαμ*, vi. 268 ; *φιονναμ*, xxix. 12 (both used relatively). 3. -*ταιγρω*, -*ταιγρεω*. Rel. *ραορραρ*, *ρσυρραρ*. Ps. *υαυρωριωρ* ; *επερρωραρ*.

Redup. Fut. Sg. I. ἀίρεομαι, xxviii. 41; κοίμεομαι, v. 184; θεωρῶμαι, v. 31; vi. 8; ἰννεόμαι, v. 127; -ταίγεται, xxiv. 11; -κέαι, xxviii. 28; -θεῖνμαι, xxix. 13. 3. μέειπαι, vi. 123; θεωρῶμαι, vi. 259. Pl. I. θεωρῶμαι (rel.), xvi. 126.

† Condit. Sg. I. -οἰύττειν; -κυῖνται, viii. 26. 2. -ταίρει. 3. -ταίρει. Ps. -οἰύττει, ταίρει.

Redup. Condit. Sg. I. -ἀίρομαι, vi. 170. 3. -ἀίρομαι, iv. 44. Ps. -τέμνεται, xxii. 16.

Preterite. Sg. I. -ἔαυ. 2. -ἔαυ, -ἔαυ. 3. ἔαυ, ii. 6; ἔαυ, xxviii. 32; cf. ii. 10, 21; v. 178; xx. 9; xxviii. 20; -έαι, etc., v. 178; xvi. 98; xv. 54; -ἔαυ, etc., v. 103; ii. 42; v. 110; vi. 28, 214; xviii. 13; xxiv. 1; xxix. 31. Pl. I. ἔαυ(ι), -ἔαυ(ι), etc., x. 16; xviii. 80; xxix. 22; το ἔαυ, vi. 39, 46, 101; xviii. 158, 167; -ἔαυ, xv. 6; -ἔαυ, xvi. 133; Ps. -έαι, xxiv. 7; -έαι, xxviii. 55; -έαι, vi. 273; -έαι, iv. 66; vi. 212.

VERB-NOUNS.

ἄν, g. ἄν, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι, -έαι.

SUBSTANTIVE VERB.

Ind. Pres. forms without α- optional in Rel. construction, always after μαι and usually after γέ, μά, ὅ.

Sg. I. αἶ; αἶ; -αἶ. 2. αἶ; αἶ; -αἶ. 3. αἶ, αἶ; -αἶ; -αἶ; αἶ (rel.), v. 186; -αἶ, vi. 63; xx. 4; xxv. 13. Pl. I. αἶ; αἶ; -αἶ. 3. αἶ; αἶ; -αἶ; -αἶ.

Habit. Pres. Sg. 3. -βί. Pl. I. βί. 3. βί; -βί. Rel. βί.

Imper. Sg. 2. βί. 3. βί. Pl. I. βί.

Imperf. Sg. I. -βί. 3. -βί. Pl. 3. -βί, -βί.

Pret. Sg. 2. το βί, xvi. 30. 3. (MSS. vary much), το βί, vi. 33, 40. βί, xxviii. 27, 49. πο βί, i. 8; -βί, vi. 227; πο βί, vi. 190; το βί; -βί. Pl. το βί, v. 118; vi. 90; βί, xxviii. 12; -βί, vi. 204. Impers. -βί, v. 63.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -βέ; -βί. Rel. βί, viii. 28.

Subj. Past. Sg. 2. -βί, iii. 12. 3. -βί, vi. 259; x. 28; xviii. 35; -βί. Pl. I. βί. 3. βί; βί.

Fut. Sg. I. -βί. 3. βί; -βί. Pl. I. -βί. Rel. βί.

Cond. 2. -βί. 3. -βί.

Verb-noun, βί; βί.

Part. Necess. βί.

COPULA.

Imper. Sg. 3. *bað*, x. 25.

Ind. Pres. I. *am*, xiv. 10 ; *níom*, *níam*, viii. 27, 28 ; *naðam*, xvi.

3. 2. *ro*, iv. 2, 10 ; *ʒrð að*, xxi. 119 ; *níat*, xiv. 22 ; *ʒurð*, xvi. 42.

3. 1r, *ar* ; 1r', *ar'* (rel.) ; neg. *ní h-* ; *noða*, ii. 23 ; *noða n-* (*noðan* ?)

xvi. 14. Dep. Neg. *nað* ; *cirð nað*, v. 38 ; *ó nað*, v. 184. + *má. má(r)ð*.

+ *má* + neg. *munað*, v. 88 ; xiii. 3 ; *munab*, viii. 4. + *ó. ór*. + *ʒo*.

ʒonað, xvi. 163 ; xxviii. 45 ; *ʒur(ð)b*, iv. 14 ; vi. 12 ; *ʒur*, xvi. 116.

+ *ʒé*. *ʒrð*, v. 135 ; vi. 17. + Pŕep. + Rel. *lé na h-*, xxviii.

58 ; *tén h-*, xxviii. 59. *arð*, v. 91 ; xxiv. 27. *aʒ ar*, v. 53.

oán h-, v. 116 ; vi. 23. *ðarab*, xx. 1 ; *ðar*, xi. 16. *ar roð*, xviii. 28.

Fut. Rel. *bur*, v. 3, 11. Condit. Sg. 3. *buð*, *bað* ; *ro buð*, vi. 78 ;

ba, xix. 7 ; *ní buð*, v. 4 ; *ʒomað*, ii. 4 ; v. 56 ; *ʒur ba*, vi. 110 ; *nað*

ba(ð), xiv. 29 ; xvi. 25 ; *narb'*, xvi. 24 ; *lé buð*, xx. 13 ; xxiii. 2.

(Sbj. Pres. ?) ; *te mbað*, xviii. 38 (Pr. Sbj. ?). Pl. 2. *ʒur bað*, ii. 41.

3. *nabroðoir*, xv. 45.

Pret. Sg. 3. *fa h-* ; *fá h-* ; *ba* ; *ba* (rel.), xv. 42 ; xxix. 7 ; *bað'*,

buð' (rel.), xviii. 115. *ro bað*, v. 66, 96 ; vi. 92 ; *ro b'*, iii. 8 ; xiii.

21 ; *ro b'*, ii. 29, v. 13 ; *roð'*, ii. 35 ; *roða*, xvi. 142 ; *arð'*, v. 153 ;

xx. 12 ; *níorð'*, ii. 47 ; iii. 13 ; *níor'*, iii. 6 ; *níorbo*, vi. 183 ; *narð'*,

vi. 104 ; *nar'*, vi. 98 ; *naðarð'*, v. 109 ; *noðar'*, xxviii. 45 ; *ʒur(ð)b'*,

xv. 15 ; *ʒur(ð)b'*, v. 90 ; *ʒur'*, vi. 166 ; *ʒérð'*, iv. 8 ; *ʒerð'*, ix. 27 ;

ʒér, ii. 49 ; *ʒerbo*, vi. 134 ; *munar*, v. 150 ; *ðar(ð)b'*, v. 37 ; *ðarðða*

h-, xviii. 46 ; *ðar'*, ii. 23 ; *arð rð*, xvii. 2 ; *rérð'*, vi. 139. Pl. 1.

ʒéarpram. 3. *níorprað*, i. 1, 6 ; *ʒéarprað*, i. 2.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. *ʒurab*, xv. 2 ; *narab*, xiv. 8 ; xvi. 33 ; *mað*,

vi. 2.

Subj. Past. Sg. 3. *bað*, *buð* ; *mar bað*, xvi. 46 ; *ná buð*, xiii.

26 ; *áct mað*, xvi. 17, 86 ; *munab*, v. 4 ; *ðamað*, *ðámað*, iv. 26 ;

v. 87 ; *ʒémað*, vi. 271. Pl. *ðiamroðoir*, xv. 45.

BEIRIM.

Imper. Sg. 2. *beir*. Pl. 2. *beirð*, ii. 13. Indic. Pres. Sg. 1.

beirim. 3. (rel.) *beirðar*. Ps. *beðar*, *beirðeðar*, xvi. 109. Impf.

Ps. -*beirðæoi*, xv. 62. Sbj. Pr. Sg. 1. *beðar*, ix. 17 (or Pass. ?)

Subj. Past. Sg. 3. -*beiræð*. Pl. 3. -*beirðoir*.

Fut. Ps. *beðarar*.

Cond. Sg. 2. -*beirðæð*. 3. -*beiræð*. Pl. 3. -*beirðæoi*. Ps.

-*beirðæoi*.

Pret. Sg. 1. *ruðar*. 2. *ruðar*. 3. *ruð*. Pl. 3. *ro ruðrað*, xv.

14 ; *ruðrað* (rel.), xviii. 125. Ps. *ruðað* ; -*ruðað*.

Verb-noun, *beirð* (g. *beirðe*). Part. Nec. *beirðæð*, xviii. 147.

ԾՈՒԵՐԻՄ.

Imper. Sg. 2. լս, լսա՛ւր. 3. -լսա՛ծ. Pl. 2. լսեա՛ծ; լսա՛ւր, լսա՛ւր (?), xviii. 31, n.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. լու Երիւմ. 2. լու Ե(ե)րիւ; -լսա. 3. լու Ե(ե)րի; լս, vi. 195; -լսան. Pass. լու Եարաւր; -լսեալ.

Impf. Pl. 3. -լսեալ.

Pret. Sg. 3. լս, vi. 99; լու Եա, ii. 25; iii., 4; vi. 37; -լսա, vi. 249; x. 25. Pl. լսեալ, v. 143; 3. լսեա, vi. 47. Pass. լսեա, vi. 52; լու Եա, xxviii. 9.

Fut. Sg. 1. լու Եար. 3. լու Եարա; -լուա. Pass. -լուալ.

Cond. Sg. 1. լու Եարաւմ; -լուաւմ. 2. լու Եարեա. 3. լու Եարա; -լուա, -լուա, -լուա. Ps. լու Եարեալ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. -լսա, v. 48; xxix. 37.

Past. Sg. 2. -լսեա. Pl. 1. -լսեալ. 3. -լսեալ. Ps. -լսեալ.

ԼՈՒԵՐԻՄ.

[Forms without ա- are used optionally as Rel., and after չե, մար, մա.]

Imper. Sg. 2. աւալ.

Pres. Ind. Sg. 1. (ա)լու(ե)րիւմ; -աւաւմ. 2. (ա)լու(ե)րիւ; -աւա. 3. (ա)լու(ե)րի. Pl. 2. աւալեա, -եա, աւալեալ. 3. աւալա. Ps. -աւալալ.

Imperf. Pl. 3. աւալալ, աւալալ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 2. աւա. Pl. 3. -աւա.

Past Sg. 1. -աւաւմ. 3. -աւա.

Fut. Sg. 1. (ա)աւա; -աւա. 3. (ա)աւա.

Condit. Sg. 1. աւաւմ; -աւաւմ. 3. (ա)աւա. Pl. 3. աւալալ. Ps. աւալեալ.

Pret. Sg. 1. (ա)աւալ; -աւալ; -աւալ. 2. աւալալ. 3. (ա)աւալալ; -աւալալ; -աւալալ. Pl. -աւալալ. Ps. աւալա; -աւալա.

Verb-noun, աւա; աւա, vi. 6; gen. աւա, xviii. 46.

ՃԱԿԻՄ.

Imper. ճա.

Pres. Ind. Sg. 1. ճաւաւմ. Pl. 2. ճալեալ. Rel. ճաւա. Ps. ճալեալ.

Subj. Pres. Ps. -ճալալ, xxviii. 71.

Subj. Past. Pl. 3. -ճալալ, v. 176.

Fut. Sg. 1. ճալա, xxii. 23; -ճալ, xiv. 68.

Condit. Sg. 3. -ճալա, vi. 127; xiv. 33.

Pret. Sg. 3. ճալալ, xxviii. 20; ճալալ, iv. 59; լու ճա; լու ճա. Pl. 3. ճալա, i. 2; -ճալա, vi. 254

Verb-noun, ճալալ.

ԾՈ ՋԵԻԾԻՄ.

Imper. Sg. 2. բաճալ, vi. 122.

Pres. Ind. Sg. 1. -բաճամ. 3. ծո ՋԵԻԾ ; -բաճան ; բաճ (rel.), xviii. 134. Ps. -բաճ(ե)ար.

Impf. Ps. -բաճեալ.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -բաճ, ix. 30. Pl. 1. (բ)աճամ, v. 64 ; vi. 33. Pl. 2. -բաճալե, vii. 17. Ps. -բաճ(ե)ա(լ)ր.

Subj. Past. Sg. 2. -բաճեա. 3. -բաճած. Pl. 3. -բաճալար.

Fut. Sg. 2. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալլե, v. 71. 3. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալլե. Pl. 2. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱՅԻ ; -բալլե. 3. -բալլեա. Ps. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱ(լ)ր ; -բալլեար, -բալլեար, xiv. 31.

Cond. Sg. 1. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱԻՆ ; -բալլին. 2. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱ ; -բալլեա, xxvii. 2. 3. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱԾ ; -բալլեա. Ps. ծո ՋԵԱԾԱՅԻ, v. 118 ; -բալլե ; -բալլե, v. 22.

Pret. (րո, ուր, etc., not used) Sg. 1. բարար ; -բարար. 2. բարար ; -բարար. 3. բար ; -բար ; -բարարար, xxix. 11. Pl. 2. բարոար ; -բարոար. 3. բարրեա ; -բարրեա ; -բարաւար, vi. 33. Ps. բր(ո)ե ; -բր(ո)ե.

Verb-noun, բաճ(ե)ալ.

ԲԱՃԵԱԻՄ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 3. բաճեալ, vi. 129. Rel. բաճար. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -բաճեա. Pret. Sg. 1. -բաճար. 3. բաճար, ii. 34. Fut. Pl. 1. -բալլեամ, xxix. 28.

ԸՈՅԾԱԻՄ.

Imper. Sg. 3. ընծալ. Pl. 2. ընծար. Pres. Ind. Pl. 3. ընծար.

Pret. Sg. 1. -ընծար. 2. -ընծար. Verb-noun, ընծալ.

ԸՈՅԾԱԻՄ.

Imper. Pl. 2. ընծար. Pret. Sg. 3. ընծար, ii. 32 ; -ընծար. Ps. -ընծար. Fut. Sg. 1. -ընծեալ, v. 7. Verb-noun, ընծալ.

ԾՈ ՈՒՄ.

Imper. Sg. 2. ումե, x. 4 ; xxiii. 6. Pl. 2. ուանալ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. ծո ում. 2. ումե. 3. ծո ու ; -ուանան. Pl. 2. ծո ում. 3. ծո ուա. Ps. -ուանար.

Imperf. Sg. 1. -ուանին. 3. ծո ուով.

Subj. Pres. Sg. 2. -ուանա, xviii. 38. Pl. 3. -ուանալ. Ps. -ուանար.

Subj. Past. Sg. 1. -ուանաին. 2. -ուանա. 3. ծո ուա, vi. 247 ; -ուանալ. Pl. 3. -ուանալար. Ps. -ուանալ.

Fut. Sg. I. ὡ ζέαν; -οιζέαν. 3. -οιονζνα.

Cond. Sg. I. -οιονζνουinn. 3. ὡ ζέανασ; -οιονζνας. Pl. I. ὡ ζέανμαι. 3. ὡ θέαντοαιρ.

Pret. (πο, νιορ, etc., not used) Sg. I. ὡ ρόνυρ; ὡ ρυνnear, xvi. 8; -οεapnar. 2. ὡ ρυννιρ; ὡ ριζνιρ; ὡ ρόναιρ; -οεapnαιρ. 3. ὡ ρυνne; -οεapnα. Pl. I. -οεapnρam. 2. -οεapnαθαιρ. 3. ὡ ρόνρασ, ii. 47; -οεapnρασ, vi. 148; -οεapnαθαρ, xviii. 126. Ps. ὡ ρ(ο)inneα; ὡ ρόνα; -οεapnα.

Part. Necess. θέαντα. Verb-noun, θέαναι, θέιναι (dat. for nom.), v. 46, 49, III.

ΔΟ-Ćīm, ὙΟ-Ćīm.

Imper. Pl. I. ραιceam, xxii. 2; xxviii. 62.

Ind. Pres. Sg. I. ὡ ċiú; -ραιcim. 2. αοċi; ὡ ċi; -ραιce. Pl. 2. ὡ ċiċi; -ραιċti. Ps. αοċiteap; -αιċteap, xviii. 145. Subjunctive. Pl. I. ὡ ċiċriom, xxii. 22. Condit. Sg. 3. ċipeα; (rel.) ii. 52. Pret. (πο, νιορ, etc., not used) Sg. I. ὡ ċonnape; -ρaca. 3. αο ċonnape; ὡ ċonnape; -ρaca. Ps. -ρacar, vi. 82; x. 20. Verb-noun, ραιcην.

ΔΟ-Ćluimim, ὙΟ-Ćluimim.

Imper. Pl. 2. cluinrō, xi. 4. Ind. Pres. Sg. I. -cluimim. 2. -clume. Pl. 2. -cluinti; αο-cluinti. 3. -cluinro. Ps. cluinteap (rel.); -cluinteap; -cloirteap. Subj. Pres. Ps. -cluintir, -teap. Fut. Ps. cluinρrōeap. Pret. Sg. I. αο-ċuala; ρο-ċ; ὡ-ċ. 2. -cuaiap. 3. ὡ ċuala(ρ), -cuala. Pl. ὡ ċualamaiρ. 2. αο-ċualαθαιρ. Ps. ατ clor; ρο clor; ρο clor; -clor. Verb-noun, clor; cluinρin; cloirρoin.

ΤΕΪγim.

Imper. Sg. 2. eipz, vi. 262. Ind. Pres. Sg. I. téigim. 3. téro. Pl. 3. tiaζaro, xxviii. 8. tiaρ, v. 107. Rel. téρōeap. Impf. Pl. 3. téigoir. Ps. téigti, v. 87. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -οεα; ii. 8; xv. 18. Subj. Past. Sg. I. -οεα;aimn. 3. -οεα;α. Pl. I. -οεα;μαι. 3. -οεα;αοαιρ. Fut. Sg. 3. ρα;α; -ρα;α; -ρα;α. Pl. I. -ρα;am. Rel. ρα;ap. Condit. Sg. 3. -ρα;α. Pret. Sg. I. -οεα;ap. 3. ὡ ċuαρ (ċā-, ċō-). 3. -οεα;α; -οεα;α; -τιρ, x. 12. Pl. 3. ιοθαρ, xxii. 29. Verb-noun, ροι, ροι. Part. Nec. ροιτα.

ΤΙγim.

Imper. Sg. 2. tap, xxii. 2; xxiv. 17; τοιρce, τα-, xxii. 19, 31. 3. tiζeα; ii. 37. Pl. 2. tiγrō, xvi. 75, 81. Ind. Pres. Sg. 3. tiγ; -tiγ. Pl. I. -tiγmro. 3. Ps. -τε;ap, xxiii. 7; -tiγtir, xxii. 4. Imperf. Pl. 3. -tiγoir. Subj. Pres. Sg. 3. -ti, x. 27; xiv. 17. Subj.

Past. Sg. 3. -τίοραθ, v 62; xviii. 129. Pl. 3. -τιγοίρ, xxviii. 21; Fut. Sg. 2. -ταρξαιρ,¹ vii. 9. 3. τιορφα; -τιορφα; ταρξα,¹ vii. 15. Condit. Sg. 2. -τιορφα. 3. -τιορφαθ. Pret. (πο, νίορ, etc., not used. Sg. 3. τάιμις; το άιμις, viii. 10; -τάιμις. Pl. 3. τάνξασορ; -τάνξασορ, Ps. τάνξορ, v. 35. Verb-noun, τοιρδεάετ; τοιξεάετ; τεάετ, τεάετα). v. 30; τοέτ, xxviii. 7.

ΡΟΙCΙΜ, ΡΙΞΙΜ, etc.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. ριξιμ, vi. 95. 3. ροιέ, xv. 75; xxv. 12; (ραιέ also common). Subj. Pres. Sg. 1. -ρια, ii. 31; 3. -ρο, vii. 5; xviii. 91; Pl. 3. ροιρρο, ii. 31. Fut. Sg. 3. -ρο (Subj. form), xxiii. 18. Pret. Sg. 3. το ροιέ, xxiii. 12; ράιμις; -ράιμις; το ριαέτ, v. 38; -ριαέτ, vi. 149. Pl. 2. ράνξασορ.

ΤΥΙΤΙΜ.

Pret. Sg. 3. τυιτιρ, vi. 216; το τυιτ; το έαρ, v. 182; vi. 132; αο ποέαιρ, vi. 136, 172, 213; τορέαιρ, iv. 65; vi. 218; το ποέαιρ, vi. 213 (v.l.), 172 (v.l.); -τορέαιρ, iv. 18; vi. 220. Pl. τορέρασορ, iv. 10; -τυιτρεαο, xviii. 165.

ΡΕΑΘΑΡ.

Ind. Pres. Sg. 1. το ρεαοαρ, vi. 123; -ρεαοαρ, vi. 176. 2. -ρεαοορ (-ρτορ, v.l.), v. 186. 3. -ρεαοαιρ, xviii. 91. Pl. 1. εαοαμαρ (rel.), xvi. 104. Subj. Pres. Ps. -ρεαρταρ, ix. 4. Subj. Past. Sg. 1. -ρεαραιμν. Pret. Ps. πο ρεαρ, ix. 9; αο ρεαρ, xviii. 136; -ρεαρ, xxix. 11.

ΤΑΡΡΑΙΘ.²

Pret. (πο, νίορ, etc., not used) Sg. 1. -τάρρετ, ix. 28. 2. -τάρ(ρ)έαιρ, xii. 8. 3. τάρραιθ, iv. 20, 23; vi. 150; xxiii. 5; -τάρραιθ, iv. 20; vi. 63. Pl. 1. -τάρρεαμαρ, viii. 12ⁿ. 2. τάρρευθαιρ, τάρρευθαιρ, viii. 12. Ps. τάρρεαρ, v. 83; -τάρρεαρ, v. 16.

PREPOSITIONS.

Ας. + Poss. Adj. Sg. 2. ξατ. 3. ξά. + Rel. ξά n-, vi. 11; Δς. naé, xvi. 103.

Δρ. [composite of OI. *air* (dat. acc.) and *for* (acc.)]. Aspirates irregularly. φορ, vi. 165. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. ορ(α)μ. 2. ορ(ε)τ.

¹Protot. form of το-ρεξα, an *a*-Subj. used as Fut. of do-tiagu. 3. Sg. is used as theme for S.-Fut., thought by poets to be connected with ταρραέταιν.

²<to-ad-ro-*reth* or to-ad-air-*reth*. The Pret. Pass. τάρρεαρ, τάρραιρ, gave by false analogy a Pret. Act. 1. τάρρεαρ. 2. τάρρεαιρ. Ταιρ, S.-Subj stem, forms a new stem whence τάρρεαρ and fut. τάρρεαο, etc.

3. M. αἶπε ; φαῖρ, vi. 120. F. υπῖπε. Pl. I. οἶπνν, οἶπνε. 2. οῖαῖθ, οἶρῖθ, xxii. 21. 3. οῖρῖα-ῖοε (?), xi. 3. + Rel. ἀρ ἄ n- ; ἀρ ἀρ' ; ἀρ nαῖ, xviii. 50.

ἀρ. [ἄ n- before accented words, ἀρ before proclitics] + Rel. ἀρ ἄ n-

οἶ by itself is always written οἶ ; οἶ and οἶε are indistinguishable in composition with article, possess. adj., Relative, οἶον ; οἶom, οἶο, οἶἄ, οἶα ; οἶἄ n-, οἶἄρ. Before ζαῖ and ῖαρ οἶ is written οἶα. οἶ + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. οἶἄν. 2. οἶτε, οἶο, οἶε, οἶο. 3. M. οἶ. F. οἶ, οἶ. Pl. I. οἶν(η), οἶν(η). 2. οἶοῖθ, οἶῖθ. 3. οἶἄθ, οἶοῖθ, οἶ + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. οἶom. 2. οἶοτ. 3. M. οἶε, οἶε ; F. οἶ, οἶ. Pl. I. οἶνν. 2. οἶῖθ, 3. οἶοῖθ, οἶῖθ.

φο (φα). a. φο' = under. b. φα' = in (about). c. φα in φα φαῖ. + Rel. φα n- ; φαρ'.

ζαν aspirates irregularly.

ζο n- "with." + Poss. Adj. ζο n-α, ii. 34 ; ii. 41.

ζο n- "to." + Art. Sg. ζυρ ἄν, iv. 55. Pl. ζυρ nα, xxviii. 19. + Poss. Adj. ζο α, vi. 239 ; xviii. 107. N.B. ζυρ ἄνοιρ, xvii. 1 ; xxiii. 9. + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. ἐζῶμ. Pl. 2. ἐζῶιθ. 3. ἐζῶα, ἐζῶα, xi. 10.

1 (α) n-, (ιονν, ἄνν, especially before ζαῖ, v. 48, 154, and ῖαρ, xvi. 120). + Art. ραν', ραν n-, ἦρ ἄν n-, ρα n- (often no affection in MSS.), ἦρ, ἀρ especially before τῖς and τῖρ, cf. iv. 10 ; v. 102 ; vi. 73 ; xiv. 26. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. ἄνν ; ἰνν, xvi. 63 ; ἄν(η)ρῖν, vi. 4. + Poss. Adj. Sg. I. ἰμ, ἰν. 2. αῖ ; ῖο. 3. ἰ n-α, ἰονα. + Rel. ἰ n- ; ἰ(ο)nα n- ; xvi. 100 ; xv. 68 ; ἰ(ο)ναρ'.

1αρ n-. + Poss. Adj. Sg. 2. ἀρ nαῖ, xvi. 63. 3. 1αρ n-α, vi. 83.

(ε)οῖρ, εἰοῖρ, generally aspirates. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 2. εἰοῖρῖο xiv. 69n. Pl. I. εἰοῖρῖνν ; εἰοῖρῖνν, xiv. 69.

ἰμ, ἰν. + Poss. Pron. Sg. 3. M. ἰννε, i. 10 ; F. ἰνπε. + Art ἰν ἄν n- ; ἰνν, ii. 47. + Rel. ἰνἄ n-

τε, τἄ (<OI. *la* and *fri*). + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. ἰom, ἰεμ. 2. τεατ, τἄτ. 3. M. τἄρ, τερ. F. τέ. Pl. I. ἰνν, ἰονν, xxx. 23. 2. ἰῖθ. 3. τεο. + Poss. Adj. τε α ; τε n-α (?), xvi. 49. + Rel. τε n-, iv. 10 ; τέρ' ; τερ nαῖ. + Art. τερ ἄν n-.

οῖ. + Art. ὄν. + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. ὠμν. 2. ὠτε, ὠο. 3. M. ὠῖ(ε), xvi. 89 ; ὠῖ(α), xxviii. 11, 45. Pl. I. ὠν(η) ; ὠν, xxx. 23. 3. ὠῖα, ὠῖῖθ, xviii. 139 ; ὠῖῖθ. + Poss. Adj. ὄμ, ὄο, ὄ α, ὄ ἄρ. + Rel. ὄ n-, ὄρ'.

οῖρ, ὠρ aspirates irregularly. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 2. ὠρῖο, v. 186 ; x. 26. 3. M. ὠρῖα. F. ὠρῖτε. Pl. 3. ὠρῖοῖθ, x. 17.

Re n- (<OI. *fri* and *la*). + Pers. Pron. Sg. I. ρ(ι)om. 2. ρ(ι)οτ. 3. M. ρῖρ, ρῖρεαν. ii. 4 ; F. ρῖα, vi. 22 ; xxiii. 15. Pl. I. ρ(υ)ἰνν. 2. ρ(υ)ῖθ. 3. ρ(ι)ῖ, xxvii. 19. (?) + Poss. Adj. ρῖν, ρῖο, ρε α (ρῖ n-α, xv. 49.

Re(μ)α n-, ρομῖν, xviii. 122. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. ρομῖν ; ρεαμῖν ; ρῶν, vi. 96 ; 2. ρομῖαο ; -τ ; ρεαμῖαο ; -τ ; ρῶτο, vi. 139 ; 3. M. ρομῖνε, ρεμῖνε, iv. 37 ; vi. 117. F. ρομπε, ρεμπε. Pl. 1. ρομῖνν, ρεαμῖνν, ρῶνν(e). 2. ρομῖαῖ, ρεαμῖαῖ, ρῶῖ. 3. ρόμπα, ρεαμπα. + Poss. Adj. μῖα n-α, vi. 169. + Art. μῖα in n-, vi. 218 ; xvi. 54 ; xv. 34.

Seac. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. ρεαcα. Pl. 1. ρεαcῖνν.

Tap aspirates irregularly. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 1. tap(u)m. 2. tapc. 3. M. tapup, tapair. F. tappe, xiv. 33. Pl. 3. tap(p)pa, xi. 2 ; xviii. 153 ; xxi. 19. + Art. tap an n-. + Rel. tap napῖ ; tap nac.

Tré', tré'. + Pers. Pron. Sg. 3. tréto, vii. 6, 15 ; treim(e)it, ix. 7. + Poss. Adj. tré n-α, xvi. 93. + Rel. tré nac, xvi. 85.

ADVERBIAL AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES.

Vid. Voc. sub. abα, abῶap, aḡarῶ, aineot, airῶ, air, aicte, aicup, aic, amac, amuῶα, amuiḡ, anall, doi, barri, béal, biḡin, bun, cár, céarḡoir, ceann, cian, comḡmeap, comair, comḡrom, conclann, cor, cúir, cúl, cor, dál, deaḡarῶ, diaῖῶ, dḡiḡ, ḡruim, éaḡmair, earḡarῶ, eimeac, éir, fail, farpaῶ, feacḡ, feaῶ, ferḡm, focair, ḡeall, ḡnác, ḡné, ḡnác, lám, lár, lácair, leap, leac, leacῶ, lor, moῶ, muin, nóir, oipeac, peacḡ, pian, piap, puocḡ, pḡác, pḡioḡc, pon, ponnpaῶ, púil, taob, topac, trác, tuairum, tuilleaῶ, túr, uair, uéc.

CONSTRUCTIONS WITH ABSTRACT NOUNS.

Notice ḡ'peabap c' ealaḡna, iii. 1 ; xv. 8 ; ḡá ḡreire, vi. 137, 188 ; xviii. 133 ; xxviii. 58 ; ip α upacḡ α cuiḡpin, xvi. 48 ; acḡ α ḡoire ḡo bí, vi. 37 ; tré n-α mionca . . aḡeir, xvi. 93 ; α mḡeacḡ vi. 244.

PART V.

BOOKS, POEMS, POETS REFERRED TO.

Vid. sub. airḡean ; aiccap ḡ lopeáin ; aḡo Albanaḡ ; aḡo mḡaca, breac, bpoḡan ; bpuiḡean ; Camín, cairc, Cairéal, canáim, ceapc, Ciapán, Cionnaoic ḡ hApcḡáin, Columb, Comḡán, Comḡall, Cormac ; Dinḡpeancap, Duḡ ḡá leice, éire ḡḡ, feirceirḡne, fínḡin, fíceall, flann McLonáin, ḡabáil, ḡabálcap, ḡiolla Moḡuḡa, ḡleann ḡá loḡa, ḡuite, inip Caḡaiḡ, I. Cloḡpan, ipup, mac lias, maḡ laiḡean, maḡolnuire, moḡuḡa, moḡann, mucpoime, néroḡ, oḡap, péim, polia, teacḡa, Teamair, toḡmaic, toḡaíl, Tuaim.

BATTLES REFERRED TO.

Vid. sub. *Ar*o *U*neacáin, *De*ann *E*adair, *U*iochlann, *Ca*lgaé, *Co*rrn *F*orrtoroma, *Ca*r *G*linne, *Ce*all *u*a *n*Dairíre, *Ce*all *O*rnadó, *Ce*ann *C*oradó, *C.* *F*eabhadó, *C.* *M*aíair, *C*raob *T*olca, *C*rionna, *O*ruim *D*aingáire, *D*uiblinn, *E*ar *R*uadó, *E*irne, *F*earta *N*íne, *S*abar, *S*éirill, *S*rian *C*liac, *Lo*c *U*feabail, *L*uimneac, *M*aí *A*dair, *m.* *U*neag, *m.* *I*ota, *m.* *L*aigean, *m.* *L*éana, *M*ucronne, *M*uine *U*rocan, *O*ileac, *R*ac *C*omar, *R.* *C*ruacna, *S*giat *N*eacáin, *S*liab *S*Cua, *S.* *F*uadó, *S.* *n*Calpa, *S*ulcóro, *T*eamair, *T*ráig *L*i.

TREES REFERRED TO.

*B*ile *a*n *m*aíre, vi. 252; *E*o *R*orra, etc., iv. 31.

Ἰομαρβῶς ἡ βῆρεα

THE CONTENTION OF THE BARDS

lomarpbás na bpilead.

I.

mo dád daltán níosad lúim. TORNA cet.

1. Mo dád daltán níosad lúim ¹ . Miall Teampal Cope Cairil éiam
ua Eogain móir a mac . ua Cuinn mar Conn céad-catac.
2. Gabrad éirinn móir a mbíos . ba coméorúil a gcóimhíon
séirad teann miall neart ngoile ² . níor fáom Cope a ionnroige.
3. Sé do éuaró go hálbain áin . miall mac Eocac Muig-meadóin
do macad Cope reaca roir . muna mbeir miall pé dgaró.
4. Ní fáca fear amail miall . as ionnraige eactann go cian
ní fáca fear amail Cope . dar luaró aym tana taoð-noct.
5. Noça nfaca diar ba fearr . i dtír do tíub éireann
ba géire gairgead zona . ir clearrao a n-aro-boga.
6. lomúin d'éide a Ué do nim . níosad uairé aipeannaig
miall i gcuirn-éad Cuinn céad ngal . Cope mac Luigheac
plait Munan.
7. Ir mé Torna párdar roinn . mo dád daltá an dtír párdim
dom réir do tigróir gac lá . mo dád mac mo dád daltán.
8. Do b'aoibinn dam ro bui real . roir Teampal ir Cairéal
ó Teampal go Cairéal cam . ócá Cairéal go Teampal.
9. Tan do binn maraon ir miall . mé do bíod as rnaidm na nsiail
tan do binn maraon ir Cope . ba mé a comairleac com-nort.
10. Ir uime do cuirinn miall . dom leit deir fa eam an éiall
ar uairle an leit deir oil . do mac ríos éireann eactaig.
11. Ir uime do cuirinn Cope . dom leit éli níor éamcá doct
ar foigre a cuirp dom éporde . do beir Cope na comnurde.
12. Ué gan Cope ua Eogain áin . ué gan miall ua Cuinn comlám
ué gan miall na típe roir . ué gan Cope ceann-aro Cairil.
13. Do bpir mo éonn ir mo éiall . ó nac mar an pí roir-miall
do bpir mo éiall ir mo éor . ó nac mar an pí ro-Cope.
14. Leat Cuinn fa éor ir fa éain . dtéir mic Eocac Muig-
meadóin,
dtéir mic Luigheac nar luaró go . do éuaró leat Moça a
muró.

mo dád.

¹ Cf. Windisch. Wört. lén. For vocalism, cf. Thurney. I., § 53. ² Cf. "mac í éam ceapóca goile," p. ón éainte, RIA 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 20. ³ K. II. 372, 382-4.

1. My two pupils they were not idle.¹ Niall of Teamhair, Corc of quiet Caiseal. Great Eoghan's descendant, great was his fortune. Conn's descendant was like Conn the Hundred-fighter.
2. They ruled Eire, great was their vigour. Equal were their deeds. Though they (both) were strong Corc dared not attack Niall the battle-stay.²
3. Though Niall, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon went to splendid Alba, Corc would have gone further east had not Niall been against him.³
4. I have seen no man like Niall attacking foreigners afar. Of all who brandished the thin bare sword I have seen none like Corc.
5. In any part of Eire I have not seen a greater pair, keener in valorous deeds of battle and in feats of high-archery.
6. Dear were the two, O God of Heaven. They were not lonely chieftains (?) Niall in the ale-house of Conn of the hundred fights, Corc son of Lughaidh, prince of Mumha.
7. I am Torna who speak the verses. My two pupils are the pair I speak of. Every day they obeyed me, my two sons, my two pupils.
8. Pleasant to me once upon a time were both Teamhair and Caiseal, (going) from Teamhair to fair Caiseal and from Caiseal to Teamhair.
9. At times I used to be with Niall, and it was I who bound his hostages. At times I used to be with Corc and I was his strong counsellor.
10. I used to place Niall on my right hand—it was a gracious plan—so that my own right side should do honour to the son of the valorous King of Eire.
11. I used to place Corc on my left side—he was no surly companion—so that Corc might be at peace owing to his being near my heart.
12. Alas for the loss of Corc great Eoghan's scion! Alas for Niall scion of perfect Conn! Alas for Niall of the East! Alas, for high-headed Corc of Caiseal.
13. My wit and my sense are destroyed since the great Niall the King lives no more. Broken is my sense and my strength since great Corc the King lives not.
14. Conn's Half is under rent and tribute after the death of the son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon. Mogh's Half is gone to ruin after the death of the son of Lughaidh who never spoke falsehood.

Ὁ ΔΙΛ ΕΑΤΑ ΙΟΥΡ ΚΟΡΕ ΙΣ ΜΙΑΛΛ. ΤΟΡΝΑ COT.

1. ΔΙΛ¹ ΕΑΤΑ ΙΟΥΡ ΚΟΡΕ ΙΡ ΜΙΑΛΛ · ι ὕροζυρ νό ι η-ιουρ-έιαν
βορβ Δ ἔπρεταν αρ ζαέ τράιζ · ΜΙΑΛΛ mac Εαέαε Μιγ-
μέαδ'άιν.
2. ΜΙΑΛΛ mac Εοάεε τις Δ ὀτυαῖο · παίρινζ τρεαταν Δ ἔρομ-
ρίυαίζ
ρυαίλλ naé pzoιlτο neoιll nιme · Δ ἔρεοιη αρ Δ ὀταιρπ'είγε.²
3. ΗΙ meapa pian Cαίρll Cυίρε · ι leiτ pe υέανάη ζαέ uιlc
pιne Cυίρε nιc λυγ'θεαέ lάιη · mo éιoη βίoρ ζά η-ιoμζαδ'άιλ.
4. Δ τoυδαιρτ Κορε Cαίρll éάιη · ζoμαῖο ι Δ έυλαέ Τεαμáιρ
'r naé pζαpπαῖο pυpeaη pé lιηη · ná pe píol Oιlιoιlla Ólιuη.
5. Ηα ΕΑΤΑ τo Cυρ Δ-mac · Δ τoυδαιρτ ΜΙΑΛΛ mac Εαέαε
'r naé pζαpπαῖο pυpeaη pé lά · ζoμαῖο leiρ Τεαμáιρ λυαέpa.
6. Ó ὀ'ευαλα Κορε aη ζυε ζαpζ · τo pάῖο τo ΜΙΑΛΛ ὀpεαέ-
nyai-θέαpζ
τεαζpαιρ⁴ Κορε um έpάε νόηα · ceίρpe ΕΑΤΑ coη-mόpa.
7. Διpυῖο Δζαη Δ nιc · Δ Cυίρε nιc λυγ'θεαέ lάιη-ζlic
ζo η-αιγillιηη ΜΙΑΛΛ ζαη oη · τέιτ aηη ζαέ ιαé ηα pυαέαρ.
8. Διpυρ Δζαη Δ pλυαζ · ιρ τo ζέαδ'έταο uαιη Δ λυαζ
ζo ηθεαέ m'οiρε ζlαη ζαpτα · ὀ'αζαλλαηη mo coηῖοαlτα.
9. Ιαρ-pιη τέιζιη-pe ζo ὀoιηη · baίl ι pαiβε leiε Cυιηη éοιρ
ιρ αιγillιηη ΜΙΑΛΛ aη áιζ · τοιτζε ὀαηpa ná ζαέ τάιλ.
10. Πιαpπυζιρ ΜΙΑΛΛ ηα ηαοι ηγiαλλ · aη pίoρ ζo ηoυδαιρτ Κορε έiaρ
Τεαμáιρ ιoρταῖο⁵ Cυιηη Εαέαιζ · ζo leiζpιηη ι ὀ'aηpλαέαιβ.
11. ΗΙ έυαλα-pa pιη ó Κορε · Δ τoυδαιρτ Τοpηα ηαρ τoέε
Δ τoειpτο Μυιηιηιζ Δ μυιζ · nί naé λeαηατo Δ λaoέpaῖο.
12. Τo pάῖοpεατ leiε Cυιηη έέαταέ · Κορε Cαίρll τo βeίε βέαταέ.
μαρ αρ ζηάε τo ηάααοη όζ · lάη τo βαοιρ ιρ τo βαpρ-ζlόp.
13. Νά βeίpτο Δ ηέιλλ ηάpαιζ · βέιηη αρ ηάα λυγ'θεαέ lάη-ζlαη
mόp ταιpη Δ έιγε pa νόιη · τeαcαιρ coηημεαρ Δ coη-óιl.
14. ΗΙ ηioηaηη τaηη-pa Δζυρ τó · τo pάῖο ΜΙΑΛΛ ηαέαρ éaη ζó
nyaiρ τo βίoῖο Κορε όp éιoηηη éλáιρ · τo βιηη-pe όp éιoηηη mo-
λeαδ'páιη.
15. Ιρ meίpζε pa-τeapa τó · Τeαμáιρ Cυιηη τo λyaῖο lé ló
'r naé pυίγεαῖο mύp aη ηeαῖο-óιl · ζaη caé ó éλaιηη έpεaηóιη.
16. ΗΙ έyδ'pαιηη baίle ι Μυμáιη · τo Κορε τo éιη ó λyζaῖο
ζaη éioρ αρ τo élοιηη Τυαέaίλ · nó ζlεo ΕΑΤΑ ιρ coη-pυαέαιρ.

¹ Cf. Dineen, sub τάιλ. ² Cf. "Το έpυoέηυιγ'pεατ nύil nιme pé ὀτpeιpe ιρ pé ὀταιρπ'είγε." Poem by Flann mac Ionáin, T.C.D., 1281, v. 5. ³ n. Castle Island, Co. Kerry. ⁴ Cf. τεαζαρ, order, arrangement, "áέτ nί αρ eαζaί Δ pάῖο pυῖ · ιo τóη ηα τεαζαρ έyαίepιl." p. óη éáιηte, RIA 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 17. ⁵ ιoρταo < O.I. etsad, treasure, treasury, v. K. Mey. McConglinne's Vis Gloss.

1. As for the battle ¹ between Corc and Niall near or afar, bold on every shore was the fury of Niall, son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhoin.
2. Niall son of Eochaidh comes from the North. Far-flung are the tracks of his heavy host. His heroes almost split the clouds, such is their fury.²
3. Not inferior is the band of Corc of Caiseal in working all ruin. I approve him who avoids the race of Corc son of great Lughaidh.
4. Corc of fair Caiseal said that Teamhair would be his eminence, and that never would it part from him in his life, nor from the race of Oilioll Olum.
5. Niall son of Eochaidh ordered the ranks to be led out and said that Teamhair should never part from him in his life, and that Teamhair Luachra ³ should be his.
6. When Corc heard the rough words of Niall of the fresh ruddy face he marshalled ⁴ at eventide his four equally great battalions.
7. "Stay, my son Corc son of wily Lughaidh, till I speak with blameless Niall who makes his onset on every land."
8. "Stay, my troops"! (says Corc). "You shall benefit by it, till my noble honourable master go to speak with my fellow-pupil."
9. Then I go to the Boinn where was fair Conn's Half, and I speak to valiant Niall. More grievous was it to me than any meeting.
10. Niall of the nine hostages asked "Is it true that Corc in the West said that I would let usurpers take Teamhair, the steading ⁵ of battling Conn?"
11. "I heard not that from Corc," said Torna gently. "The men of Mumha out there say things which their warriors do not approve."
12. Hundred-fighting Conn's Half said that Corc was insolent, as is the way of a young hero full of foolishness and vain-boasting.
13. "Find not fault, O noble Niall, with the son of glorious Lughaidh. Great is the uproar of his house at even-tide. It is hard to pass judgment on his revel."
14. "He is not as I," said Niall, who never uttered falsehood. "When Corc used to be at table (drinking) I used to be over my book."
15. It is drunkenness that made him in the daytime thus mention Conn's Teamhair, for he would never get the mead-drinking manor from Eireamhon's sons without a fight.
16. I would not leave a townland in Mumha to Corc descendant of Lughaidh, but he must pay rent for it to Tuathal's sons, or else face the din and shock of battle."

17. Dual do Cope a curo t'Éirinn • a léill cat-buadaiḡ céib-
fínn
fuarí Éibear fionn na b'leat-ól • leat Éireann ó Éireamón.
18. Ait'ead t'Éibear a fínead • ne hÉireamón mac Míleat
do tuit ór dá luad linne • i gcát glórad Gáille.
19. Do tuit ceirpe mic Éibir • la hÍual b'áró b'ínn-féinnrō
leit-bliadain a b'laitear lón³ • Éir Oíba fearḡna fearón.
20. Do tuit Connad mac Éibir • fear claoín-b'eadac nac
céillrō
a tuitim ír beart báḡad • le Tíḡearmíar tréan-lámad.
21. Roinnir Eoḡan na diaiḡ rin • Éipe m'bre a léill neimniḡ
fuarí an t'reaḡan donn⁷ d'atad • ceirpe-leat ó Conn céad-
catad.
22. Ait'ead t'Eoḡan fa b'eiread • comínear ne Conn na nḡemíeal
ar t'eadeḡ tóib ar Maḡ Léana • cian bur buan a ait-méala.
23. Trí fíerō dár dual ruḡe • do m'acab t'uat b'ar t'ípe
do tuit i b'arḡad Eoḡain • noḡa m'ad fír ain-eolaiḡ.
24. Fíce céad táimic ó a t'is • f'raoḡ fíot'nairead mac Éibir
a b'ráḡbáil ní linne ar loct • fa cōraib con ír cuanoir.
25. Do m'ad Soll ceann na ḡcupad • do cōlḡ i ḡceann fíoḡ
Mumhan
ḡur bloḡad leir enáma a éinn • ḡur liat an lár dá inéinn.
26. Mac cumniḡe cat ḡabpa • a léill a d'altáin m'anma
do tuit t'iar ír in t'adair • rean-adair do rean-adair.
27. Ní h'ad Mumniḡ do m'arḡ rin • a t'orpa m'ór-dálaḡ m'ir
adḡ buannaḡa fínn Éadair • an fír f'alla il-b'réaḡaiḡ.
28. Adá Éipe aḡ cloinn Cairbre • ní f'uil ois'neadḡ ar airtōe
ní m'air fear ruadḡa f'adaiḡ • ann'punn do na reín-fíannaiḡ.
29. Éaḡcōir com-maorḡeain Cairbre • do b'fōḡur tuit a Cairtōe
m'ór do leat-trom ḡan loḡe • m'ain oram a arto-oroe.
30. Fuarair a f'eadḡ n-urḡail uaim • ḡad a b'fuarair ó Cope
c'ruarō
leat c'roḡ na ḡc'píoc do c'neadair • ar Cope b'íor a b'urḡeadar.
31. Ní t'ingéan-fa fíot ne Cope • nó ḡo ma Cairéal na ḡenoc
nó ḡo f'oirō liom ba t'uarō • b'ráḡtōe Mumhan an m'ór-
f'luaiḡ.

¹ K II., 96, etc. ² K II., 104. ³ For lón used attributively, cf. "ír
cōir f'ór m'ár éigíon rin • an t'eadḡ-tóil lón do ḡlacad" Arḡ Ó Caoimh, RIA
23 G. 21, p. 171, v. 2. ⁴ K II., 116. ⁵ K II., 120. ⁶ K II., 264. ⁷ donn used
often of blood. Cf. f'íor-dóilḡe an t'eitḡe t'uinn. A. Ó Dálaḡ, R.I.A. 23 D.
13, p. 27, v. 8; "Éadta a éad-ḡa ná a c'uilḡ t'uinn" f. m'c an b'airt, RIA
23 C 23, p. 222, v. 42. It is used often of face, cheeks, etc., perhaps referring
to their high blood colour. A stranger example is "a t'óer-ḡeal t'onn" of
the Blessed Virgin. A. Ó Dálaḡ, RIA 23 B. 35. ⁸ K II., 266. ⁹ f'raoḡ
míleapac, son of Eibear, King of Spain. Cf. Battle of maḡléana, O'Curry.
¹⁰ C.A. 35. ¹¹ K II., 354. ¹² i.e. Cairbre t'ireadar.

17. "Entitled is Corc to his share of Eire, O fair haired triumphant Niall, Eibhear Fionn of the feasts got half of Eire from Eireamhon." ¹
18. (Niall). "Sorry was Eibhear that he pitted himself against Eireamhon, Mile's son. He fell—since his name has come up—in the wild fight of Geisill." ²
19. There fell, too, Eibhear's four sons at the hands of the prophet Irial the fair hero ; their rule lasted a half year, long enough, ³ Er Orba Feargna Fearon. ⁴
20. Conmaol, Eibhear's son also, an unjust and foolish man fell—it was a great deed of arms—at the hands of strong-armed Tighearnmhas." ⁵
21. "After all that, O fierce Niall, Eoghan shared Eire ⁶ with your folk. The ruddy hued ⁷ champion got an exact half from Conn the Hundred fighter."
22. (Niall). "Sorry, too, was Eoghan for pitting himself against Conn of the fetters when they met on Magh Léana. ⁸ Long shall his regret for it endure.
23. Sixty rightful princes of the sons of the lords of your country fell with Eoghan. This is not the statement of an ignorant man.
24. The fierce Fraoch ⁹ with two thousand who came with him, we deem it no fault that they were left beneath the feet of dogs and hounds.
25. Goll ¹⁰ chief of the heroes struck with his sword the head of the King of Mumha, so that the bones of his head were shattered and the ground gay with his brain.
26. "Do you not remember the battle of Gabhra, ¹¹ O Niall my dear pupil ? There in the fight in the west the grandfather of your grandfather ¹² fell."
27. (Niall). "It was not the men of Mumha who slew him, O Torna, proud and over-hasty in speech, but the hirelings of Fionn of Eadair that false and wily man.
28. Eire now belongs to Cairbre's race—no nobler patrimony exists. There lives not a man here of the old Fian-warriors to rouse the chase.
29. It was not right of you to thus boastfully mention (the death of) Cairbre. It was easy for you to leave him out. But your strong prejudice was ever against me, my high master.
30. You have got from me seven times as much as from hard Corc, namely, half of the spoils of the countries I raided. Yet Corc is thanked by you for them.
31. I will not make peace with Corc till I reach rocky Caiseal, and till there reach me in the North the hostages of great-hosted Mumha."

32. Éirgíir Miall iona naépaig · tógbaíir ceann ór na cataib
 ir eirgíto a naoi gcaeta · ar ioncáib a n-aro-flaeta.
33. Gluaíirir cáe uainn pé céile · gluaíirir Miall fa móir méine¹
 'r níor hanad linn go loépa · 'óí buir buan a cómapta.
34. Tis Miall go n-a naoi gcaetaib · go loépa lán-mín laénaró
 ir fágbaíir fa éiaig éumad · epíoc éile ir Up-múman.
35. Rob iomóda gápta gola · ir ornaóda fíir gona
 asur éigeaní mná bpoíoe · fa lámaib na roéparoe.
36. Naoi bfiéto céao do céaoaib · fa móir an t-aóbaí éagnaig
 peolmáe uí Cuinn na gcupaó · do buaib éile ir Up-múman.
37. A toubairt brian na mbreac paor · maoró mire ar córc
 maoró mo gaoi
 tigeao péin nó cuíreao cat · ir in maroin-pe a mápac.
38. Iarrin téigim-pe do leannmáin · Cuírc mic Luigóeac lán-
 meannmnaig
 asur fluaig meapóda Múman · ó leat Cuinn na gcaom-cupaó
39. Rugar i mDeapnán éile · ar córc gá ní ba péíoe
 asur ar cataib Cluóda · i tóimceall a tóigearna.
40. Tugar fala tre péirg móir · do córc Cairil lion a flóig
 gan annuín pe haítearf líéill · ó do luao Teamair éaoib-
 péíoe.
41. Tupa do cóirg ar gcaeta · gan gleo pe móir-fluaig Maca
 do faoil rinn sur baó ríódaig · pe Miall go n-a éaoim-
 níošuib.
42. Níor éar Miall duine fa gleo · ní mó éarpar gém buir beo
 i n-ór noéa nfuil a rpéir · níor ob cat ar dá cóibéir.
43. Do máoró cat gáirille gáar · napí tuit éibear anba an
 réan
 do máoró pór Commaol na gcepac · do máoró tréan-eošan
 taróleac.
44. Do máoró mire cat Gabpa · 'r do b'atpéac leam a labpa
 ar leatáó⁸ óam ní óeacáó · maoróeam Cairbpe lípeacair.
45. Níor lámair ar na mápac · péacáin uaim ar Miall nápac
 maic do cummíig ceann Gaordeal · mac Copnaic do com-
 maoróeam.
46. A toubairt pioépa brian binn · mac Moingéinne an earla
 fíinn
 mar líéill nó a fpeagpa um cat · ir an maroin-pe a mápac.
47. Ro éirig aró-ní áine · asur móir-fluaig na Máigé
 'r níor b'í an cómaple éumang · do pónpao mun upaóall.

¹ A common construction instead of more usual . . . mian. ² K I. 154.
³ K II. 370. ⁴ Devil's Bit, Co. Tipp. ⁵ Glandore, Co. Cork, for Mumha.
⁶ K I. 118, 176. ⁷ K II. 266. ⁸ (?) Cf. "do éuaró pé ar peacáin orm."
⁹ Cairbpe. ¹⁰ Knockany, Co. Lim. ¹¹ R. Maigue, Co. Lim.

32. Niall arose as a serpent, he raised his head over the battalions.
His nine battalions arise with their high chief.
33. All of us set out together, Niall in high spirit ¹ set out, and we rested not till we came to Lothra, ² which will long have the trace thereof.
34. Niall with his nine battalions comes to smooth Lothra Lacnaidh and leaves beneath the darkness of woe the land of Eile and Ur-Mhumha.
35. Many were the wails of grief and the groans of the wounded and the lament of the captive woman beneath the hands of the host.
36. Nine score hundreds—a mighty cause of resentment—of the cattle of Eile and Ur-mhumha was the meat-spoil of Ua Cuinn of the heroes.
37. Brian ³ of the free judgments spoke “Proclaim me and my kinsfolk against Corc. Let him come himself or send a battalion to-morrow morning.”
38. Then I go to seek Corc, son of spirited Lughaidh and the active hosts of Mumha, leaving Conn’s Half of the fair heroes.
39. At Bearnan Eile ⁴ I overtook Corc—what king was readier?—and the hosts of Cliodhna ⁵ around their lord.
40. In great anger I reproached Corc of Caiseal, with all his host, for not waiting to speak with Niall after talking of smooth-sided Teamhair as his.
41. “It was you who warned our hosts not to quarrel with the great host of Macha. ⁶ We therefore thought that you would be peaceful towards Niall and his noble chiefs.
42. Niall never refused a fight, nor will he as long as he lives. He cares not for gold, nor did he ever decline a fight with twice his numbers.
43. He boasted of the fierce fight of Geisill where Eibhear—terrible the calamity—fell. He boasted of the deaths of plundering Connhaol and of brave splendid Eoghan. ⁷
44. I boasted (against him) of the battle of Gabhra—I was sorry for mentioning it. I failed not (?) ⁸ to mention the death of Cairbre Lifeachair.
45. On the morrow I dared not look on noble Niall. Well did the chief of the Gaidheal bear in mind my mention of Cormac’s son. ⁹
46. Sweet-voiced Brian, son of fair-haired Mongfhninn, sent word to thee to do Niall’s bidding or else to answer him about a battle to-morrow morning.”
47. The high King of Aine ¹⁰ and the great host of the Maigh ¹¹ arose. Not small-minded was the course they chose in regard to the message.

48. 'S í comairle do cinneadh : 'r ír í roḡa do rinneadh
Copc do tairgeadh go teadh léill . 'r a beir uile dá dís-réir.
49. Cúis céad do marc-rluag meartha . táinig Copc fa mór
meanma
re ḡallaid ḡér dáil deacair . tís ua Eogain fíorfeacais.
50. Oéadar do ḡallaid ḡlana . fásḡair as ua Cuinn Caba
mar aon ir Cairbre mac Cuirc . as Miall Oilis an fionn-fuile.
51. Cúis céad ead cúis céad luiread . tug Miall do Copc mac
Luigdead
asur naoi bpicro fail óir . asur caosa corin com-óil.
52. Sibé éireadh meadair léill . asur Cuirc Cairil dá réir
muirne a marc-rluag brear 'r a mban . ní cuirfeadh readh ran
raogal.
53. Truag mo dála-ra fa deois . teardra mo craotha cineoil
cumha léill ir Cuirc dom éirí . ní fásaim as ná éadail.
54. Dál fear an domhain fa deois . go mullad fléibe Sióin
do tabairt ceirt do Críort éirí . béarar mire fa mór-dáil.

DÁIL.

¹ K II. 266.² *vid.* Onomast. Cobha.³ N. Derry.

OLC DO ÉASRAIS A TORNÁ. TAO'S MAC DÁIRE CÉT.

1. OLC DO ÉASRAIR A TORNÁ • GÉ BEIT D'FEABUR ÉEALATHA
TAR CEANN LEITE MOGA A-MUIG • PE NIALL CORZRAE A CRUACAM.
2. DO ÉOGHAIR 'R NÍOR ÉIALL ÉUMHNEAC • IOMARBAIG A HUÉT
MUMHNEAC
ASUR DO LÉIGIR Í ORT • AR BÁRÓ PE CATÁ CONNACÉT.
3. NÍ DON MUMHAIN DO MHAICNE • NÍOR DLIIGIR CAOINNA A SCARTE
ÓN LEIT A DUTARÓ TÁINIC RIB • DO FHOÉT ÍR MÓIR MIC MÍLRO.
4. DO BÁRÓ PE MÓR-FLUAG MAEÁ • ASUR FEARZ NA RO-FLATA
DO RAO ÉURÁ A TORNÁ TIM • ÍR NIALL AG DÉANAM DÍCILL.
5. DUAN A MHAIRZ DO ÉORC CLÁIRE • ÍR DO MÓR-FLUAG NA
MÁIGE
NAC FÍLE D'FUIL ÉIBIR FÍNN • TARLA RO ÉURO-PE DON COINNTINN.
6. A DUBHRAIR NÍOR MHAIC PE RÁO • AG TASRA DUIT PE NIALL
NÁR
FUAIR ÉIBEAR FÍONN NA BFEADÓ-OL • LEAC ÉIREANN Ó ÉIREAMHÓN.
7. ÉIBEAR ÍR É FA RINE • DON ÉLOINN OIRDEIRIC OIRTONRÓE
CEANN NA LOINGRE AR NÓOL DO DÓN • NÍ Ó FÓIREAR FUAIR
FEARANN.
8. LEIR DO ÉUIT MAC CUILL ÉALMA • AG CORNAM CRÍCE DABDA
RÍ ÉIREANN DOB AINN DON FEAR • AG TEACÉT DO MHAICNE MÍLEAD.
9. ÍR UARDE AINNIUITEAR ÉIRE • Í LAROM ZO LÁIN-TFÉIME
NÍ HAINM NAC OIRDEARIC DON FÍOR • NÍBERNIA A HAINM Ó ÉIBEAR.
10. NÍOR MHAORÓIR ÉACÉT NA AGARÓ • AR NIALL AN UAIR DO LABAIR
TUITIM ÉIBIR NA ÉACÉT MÓR • Í NGEIRILL PE HÉIREAMHÓN.
- II. CRÉAD NAR ÉUIRIR Í SCUMHNE • TUITIM LAIGNE ÍR LUIGNE
CLANN ÉIREAMHÓN MEARÓA MÍR • PE MACAIB UAIRLE ÉIBIR.
- IIA. MAC MIC D'ÉIREAMHÓN FEARÓA • EITUAL FA HARO-FLAT
TEAMPA
NÍOR MHAORÓIR A TUITIM RIN • LE LÁIN CONMAOIL MIC ÉIBIR.
12. DÁ MBEITEÁ Í GEOMÉTPOM DO ÉORC • NÍ BEITEÁ A TORNÁ RO
TOÉT
'N UAIR DO ZOIR NIALL NÍ NAR DLIIG • ANFLAT TEAMPA D'FUIL
ÉIBIR.
13. NÍOR B' ANFLATA Í DTEAMPAGS ÉINN • MÍOGRAO FLEACÉA ÉIBIR
FÍNN
ACÉT FÍOR-FLATA ZO BFEADAIN • DO DÚTEAR 'R DO DEIG-MAGAIL.
14. CÚIGEAR MAC LE HÉIBEAR FÉIN • RO GAB NEART AR TEAMPAGS
ÉRÉIN
ACÉAD TAR ÉIR A N-ACAR • NÍOR LÉIGRÍO'D Í A RUÓRACAD.

¹ CA. 274. ² K II. 108. ³ II. 41. ⁴ II. 47. ⁵ II. 17. ⁶ K II. 86,
xxix. ⁷ K II. 95. ⁸ K I. 98, 102. ⁹ II. 18. ¹⁰ K II. 116. ¹¹ K II.
118. ¹² II. 10. ¹³ K II. 116-120.

1. Poor—spite of your good learning, O Torna!—was your argument in behalf of Leath Mogha yonder against victorious Niall from Cruachain.¹
2. You undertook—it was not a happy idea—to contend for the men of Mumha, and you merely pretended to do so in your love of the hosts of the Connachta. (K).
3. Not of Mumha is your race, you had no right to defend her charter. From the North have you come from the stock of great Ir, son of Mile.²
4. Your love of the great host of Macha and the anger of its high prince made you, Torna, timid when Niall was vigorous.
5. Long shall be the sorrow on Corc of Claire³ and on the hosts of the Maigh⁴ that it was not a poet of the race of fair Eibhear that had your part in the contention.
6. You said⁵—it was not right to say it—when arguing with noble Niall “Eibhear Fionn of the drinking feasts got half of Eire from Eireamhon.”
7. It is Eibhear who was the eldest of the illustrious consecrated race. He, the head of the fleet when Donn had died,⁶ did not get the land from a younger brother.
8. By Eibhear fell brave Mac Cuill defending the land of Banba, who was called King of Eire when Mile’s race arrived.⁷
9. From him is Eire⁸ named in Latin very properly. It is an illustrious name for the hero, “Hibernia,” her name from Eibhear.
10. You did not mention any evil deed in answer to Niall when he spoke⁹ of the death of Eibhear—a great crime—at Geisill by the hands of Eireamhon.
11. Why did you not remind him of the deaths of Laighne and Luighne,¹⁰ the children of active vigorous Eireamhon, at the hands of Eibhear’s noble sons.
- 11a. A grandson of brave Eireamhon, Eitrial was high prince of Teamhair. You did not mention his death at the hand of Connhaol, son of Eibhear.¹¹
12. Had you been fair to Corc,¹² O Torna! you would not have been silent when Niall wrongfully styled Eibhear’s race the usurpers of Teamhair.
13. Not usurpers in strong Teamhair were the princes of the stock of Eibhear Fionn, but true princes—there is witness thereto—by good right and law.
14. Five of Eibhear’s sons¹³ held sway in strong Teamhair some time after their father. They did not let it pass from their prescriptive right to it (?).

15. Seac̃t sceac̃tar ó ðuine ðiob̃ • to fá̃r ne s̃Cope com̃pá̃o
fíor̃
ór cionn Team̃pac̃ na s̃cupá̃o • nar f̃eac̃o Mãll to b̃r̃eas̃nuas̃ão.
16. Rí don f̃uirinn meap̃r̃õa m̃óir̃ • to cúir ar túr flab̃ra óir̃
fa b̃r̃aís̃oib̃ m̃s̃-f̃ear̃ f̃éim̃ f̃eas̃ • mar oñóir ð'uaip̃lĩb̃
Éireann.
17. Rí eile don f̃éim̃ aip̃or̃is̃ • t̃us̃ tuap̃ar̃oal ð'aõr s̃aip̃s̃r̃õ
to c̃or̃nam̃ é̃r̃ice na b̃fionn • ar túr i n-Iñir Éir̃ionn.
18. Rí oile ðiob̃ na ðiãis̃ riñ • to é̃ac̃o-cúir le meañmaiñ m̃ĩr̃
f̃ail̃s̃e óir̃ um s̃lac̃aib̃ f̃ear̃ • to f̃l̃ó̃s̃aib̃ s̃lana s̃aor̃eal̃.
18a. Neac̃ ðiob̃ 'r ní haoiñneac̃ r̃ómp̃a • to riñne ð'f̃onn a
mb̃roñnta
r̃s̃éit̃ aip̃s̃r̃õ ir̃ cian ro-é̃lor̃ • 'r to b̃ronn iac̃ a ñaip̃s̃eap̃or̃.
19. Seand̃ur̃ f̃il̃r̃eac̃t com̃s̃ne • ir̃ m̃is̃ ð'uaip̃lĩb̃ na f̃oir̃ne
áip̃m̃t̃ear̃ õã f̃iolão riñ • i ñÉir̃inn ð'éir̃ ãm̃-ir̃siñ.
20. Neac̃ don m̃iõs̃rãõ úir̃ aip̃s̃c̃is̃ • to é̃ac̃o-cúir rõta i s̃c̃aip̃r̃tib̃
ð'iom̃c̃ar̃ õeas̃-f̃laic̃eac̃o b̃fear̃ f̃áil̃ • i s̃c̃r̃ic̃ Éireann mar̃
añáir̃.
20a. i b̃f̃laic̃ear̃ ðuine don ð̃ruing̃ • ní r̃s̃r̃iob̃t̃ar̃ a t̃eac̃t tar̃
t̃uinñ
neap̃t eac̃t̃rann ar Iñir m̃b̃reas̃ • 'r t̃us̃rãõ õeac̃t̃a õã
õĩõeañ.
20b. M̃i r̃s̃r̃iob̃t̃ar̃ op̃ra f̃ioñs̃al̃ • an m̃iõs̃rãõ é̃ac̃t̃ac̃ f̃ionn-s̃lañ
cl̃aom̃-b̃reac̃ta ña c̃ior̃r̃õãõ cuil̃ • f̃eac̃aro c̃ac̃ cia ar a
r̃s̃r̃iob̃t̃air̃.
21. Õã ñéir̃ riñ a t̃or̃na t̃r̃éim̃ • ñior̃ éir̃õt̃e ðuit ne s̃l̃ór̃ ñéil̃
añfl̃ata to m̃á̃o m̃á̃o meap̃ • ne f̃ior̃-ois̃m̃ib̃ mac̃ M̃ileac̃o.
22. A t̃uob̃raip̃ ñior̃ é̃ap̃t an s̃l̃ór̃ • as̃ t̃eac̃t̃ ðuit tar̃ eõs̃añ m̃óir̃
f̃uaip̃ an ð̃reagañ doñn õac̃t̃ac̃ • ceip̃t-leac̃ ó Conn é̃ac̃õc̃at̃ac̃.
23. T̃r̃ĩ é̃ũis̃r̃õ c̃uro to é̃ũis̃eac̃o • ñior̃b̃ é̃ ceip̃t-leac̃ é̃ũis̃ s̃c̃ũis̃eac̃o
'r é̃ ar beañ eõs̃añ ðo Conn • mar ar f̃ollur̃ a t̃or̃anñ.
24. Ó á̃t̃ Cliãt̃ Meãõrãis̃e t̃iar̃ • s̃o ðũib̃liñn l̃ife as̃ á̃t̃ Cliãt̃
á̃t̃a Éir̃s̃ir̃ Rĩõa ar f̃aõ • to roinn Conn ne Mõs̃ ñuãõão.
25. M̃ior̃ m̃aor̃õt̃e t̃uit̃im̃ eõs̃aiñ • ne Conn an aip̃s̃r̃õ eol̃ãis̃
t̃eac̃t̃ i n-áip̃m̃ s̃aip̃s̃r̃õ õã s̃uiñ • 'r é̃ na l̃ũis̃e ar a leab̃ar̃o.
26. M̃ior̃ m̃aor̃õ t̃ú r̃í Éireann f̃éim̃ • Ap̃t mac̃ Cuinñ an aip̃m̃
aip̃t̃-s̃éir̃
to t̃uit̃im̃ f̃é̃ mac̃ i s̃c̃ac̃ • s̃é̃r̃ mãit̃ t̃-eolur̃ ñior̃ f̃ear̃m̃ac̃.

¹ Conmhaol. ² Muineamhon, K II. 130. ³ Seac̃õna, K II. 140. ⁴ Ailldeargoid, K II. 130. ⁵ Eanna, K II. 128. ⁶ Cf. XVI. 47. ⁷ Rotheachtaidh Rotha C.A. 13. ⁸ II. 10. ⁹ II. 21. ¹⁰ i.e., the two Mumbas, Leinster, and part of Connaught. Cf. K. I. 106. Tadhg's comparison is based on provinces as units, not on extent of territory. ¹¹ Clarinbridge, Co. Galway. K I. 106. ¹² II. 22. ¹³ Eriu, III. 149, VI., 144, 150. ¹⁴ Lũs̃ar̃õ l̃as̃a at Mucroime, K. II. 280.

15. Twenty-eight descendants of one ¹ of them flourished before Corc—an accurate statement—over Teamhair of the heroes. Niall could not have gainsaid it.
16. A king ² of the great active band was the first to put golden chains around the necks of gentle graceful princes, as an honour to the nobles of Eire.
17. Another king ³ was the first in Eire to give pay to the warriors of the wandering Fian for the defence of the land of the Fair Ones.
18. Another king ⁴ of them afterwards was the first with quick inventiveness to put golden rings on the hands of men of the fair races of the Gaoidheal.
- 18a. One of them,⁵ and no one before them, made silver shields—it is an old story—so as to make presents of them, and bestowed them at Airgeadros.
19. It is kings of the nobles of that race that are told of as spreading history poetry synchronism, ⁶ in Eire after Aimhirgin.
20. One ⁷ of that bright inventive line of kings first put wheels to chariots for carrying in honour in Eire the goodly chiefs of the men of Fal.
- 20a. In the reign of any of that number there is no account of a force of foreigners coming over sea to Inis Breagh, and they fought battles to defend her.
- 20b. About the doughty fair noble kings there is no record of murder, or crooked judgments or violation of relationship. All see of whom these things are told.
21. Therefore, O gentle Torna, you should not have listened to Niall applying the word “usurpers” ⁸—rashly to the true heirs of the race of Mile.
22. When you spoke of great Eoghan ⁹ you said—incorrectly—“the brown ruddy champion got an exact half from Conn the hundred-fighter.”
23. Three fifths and a part of a fifth ¹⁰ was not an exact half of five fifths. That is what Eoghan took from Conn, as its boundary is clear.
24. From Ath Cliath Meadhraighe ¹¹ in the West to Dubh Linn at Ath Cliath runs Eiscir Riada all the way. Conn divided (thus) with Mogh Nuadhat.
25. It was not right to boast of the killing of Eoghan by Conn ¹² of the wily mind, his coming fully armed to kill him when he was lying on his bed.
26. You mentioned not the King of Eire himself, Art,¹³ sharp-bladed Conn’s son, whom Eoghan’s son slew in battle.¹⁴ For all your knowledge you were not sturdy (against Niall).

27. Νίον μαοιό τῦ 1 τεράτ α μαοιόμ • Cyp Cormaic mic Airc
 Aoin-fer
 τ'φιαά φο ξάβαιλ coipe • ιαρ μαιόμ Όρομα Όαήζαιpe.
 28. Όο φυιηζιγ α ράό το ηιαιι • παρ υμip caτ ξάβpa αέτ an φian
 ζέp μαιέ an φian ιp in ζcaτ • το b'έ Moξ Corp α ζcoόnaέ.
 29. Μόποε μο έpom α Έopna • opc naέ τ'eaρβαρό eaiaόna
 το έuaio όioτ α nveάaio έapc • αέτ naέ veapnaip oúinn
 oúέpaέτ.
 30. Νί ap maίte pe Corp φéin • αέτ τ'apouζaό anma ηέiιι
 το labpaip ap labaip pib • aζ taζpa το Corp έaipil.
 31. Φile aζ ζaέ opuinz oά oεpeib φéin • aζ conhéaο peanέaip oά
 bφpéin
 map έuizim anoir ap Corp • το péip m'aίtne 'r mó ap neamoic.

oic.

27. You mentioned not, when you should have done so, the putting of Cormac, son ¹ of Art Aoinfhear by Fiachaidh under the hook of the cauldron after the battle of Druim Damhghaire.²
28. You allowed Niall to say ³ that it was the Fian that won the battle. Though the Fian were brave in the fight, Mogh Corb was their commander.
29. I blame you Torna all the more as it was not through want of knowledge that you omitted what you omitted, but that you did not do your best for us.
30. Not to defend Corc but to extol the fame of Niall you spoke as you did when pleading for Corc of Caiseal.
31. That each tribe should have a part of its own stock to defend the lore of its race—as I see now in the case of Corc—is what is best in my opinion.⁴

¹ Duanaire Fhinn, II. 4, 48.

² K. II. 318.

³ II. 27.

Δ ΤΑΙΟΥΣ ΝΑ ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ ΤΟΡΝΑ. ΛΥΣΑΙΘ Ο ΕΛΕΙΡΙΣ ΕΕΤ.

1. Δ ΤΑΟΥΣ ΝΑ ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ ΤΟΡΝΑ · 'ῤ ἤαν ἐ ἰ ν-αλτ θυρ ν-αγλλιῃα
πε α ῃακ παῖλα ἱρ μαίρῃς το ῃεαρ · ὅο πῃονῃναῖο ελαον ἀρ
εαίρῃεαρ.
2. Τυς ε'αίρε ναὶ βρεῖτ le báro · το εαγνα πέιν ἀρ ἡιαιλ νάιρ
το πῃle το πῃol Σαῖοβα · ἀν Μῃῃα ἱρ ἰ ε'αταρῃοα.
3. ἡἱ ῃαίρ ὀῖοβ ἱρ ὀά μαρῃο · εἰν-ῃεαρ ὀῖοῃαλτα παλαῖο
εαγναὶ πῃεαῖτα εἰῃῃν na ὅρεαῖ · το θυῖο λῃῃ ἰ νεαῖο
ναῖερεαῖ.
4. ἡἱ εἰῃῃῃῃῃ ὀῖοῃῃοα ὃῃ τῃοῖβ εῃεαρ · πῃol ὅεἰῃῃ ὃ ναὶ τῃς
ῃαρ ὀερεαρ
ῃα εἰῃῃῃε α ὅεῃῃῃῃῃ ῃό α ὅεαῖ · αῃς εῃῃῃῃῃ τεαλλῃῃς
Τεαῃῃῃῃ.
5. Ελαῃν ὅῃλαῃῃ na ῃῃleo νεαῃ-εαίρ · ῃἱ εἰῃῃῃῃῃ εεῖτ α
ρεαῃεαίρ
α ὅεαῖ α ὅεοῃεα ῃο εῃῃῃ · λῃῃςῃεαῖ ὀῖοῃ ῃαρ το ὅεαλλῃῃ.
6. Εἰῃεαρ ὀῃῃῃ ἀν ὀαῃα ῃεαρ · ἱρ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ ἡῃρε ὀρεαῃς
ὀά εῃεῃῃ na λῃῃῃῃε αῃς τεαῖτ ὀῖῃῃ · το ὀῖοῃαῖλ ἡε ὃῃ
εαῃῃῃῃ.
7. Ελαῃν εῃῃ-ῃῃεαρ Εἰῃεαρ ῃῃῃῃ · ἱρ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ ὃῃ εἰν ῃῃῃῃ
'ῤ ἐ ὃῃ εῃεῃῃ Εἰῃῃ ὅῃο εαῖ · ἱρ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ 'na ῃῃῃεαρ.
8. ἡῃ ῃῃῃῃῃῃ ὀῃῃῃ na ὀῃῃῃῃῃ · ὅεῃῃ'ε ἀν ῃῃῃῃ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ
ῃῃῃεῖτ Ἀῃῃῃῃῃῃ ἀν ὅῃῃῃ ὅῃῃ · α ῃεῖτ α ῃ-αῖτ ἀν εῃῃῃῃῃῃῃ.
9. ὀά ῃῃῃῃ ῃῃ ῃεαῖα ῃεῃ · ἀρ ὅῃῃ ῃῃῃῃ ἀν ῃεαῃτα ῃεῃῃ
α ῃῃῃ ὅο ὀῃῃῃῃ Εἰῃεαρ ῃῃῃῃ · ὃ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ leaῖ Εἰρεαῃῃ.
10. Ελαῃν Εεαῃῃῃῃῃ 'na ὀεῃῃ ῃῃς · ῃε ῃῃῖτ ῃακ ἡῃῃεαῖ ἱρ εῃῃ
το εἰῃῃῃεαῖ εἰα le ὀεῃῃῃῃ · ἰ ὅεαῖ Ταιῃῃεαῃ τοῃῃῃῃῃῃ.
11. ὀο ῃῃῃῃ Εἰρεαῃῃῃ ῃεαρ ὀῖῃ · ῃακ Εεαῖτ το ὀ' ῃῃῃῃῃῃ
ὀῃῃ ῃῃς
ὃ το ῃῃῃῃῃ τῃῃῃ ἀν τῃεαρ ῃεαρ · το εἰῃῃῃ ὀῖῃ ῃε ῃΕἰῃεαρ.
12. ἡῃ ῃῃ ὀῃῃ Εἰῃεαρ εῃῃῃ-ῃῃῃῃ · ὀῃῃῃῃῃ na leῖτ-ῃῃς Εἰῃῃῃῃ
ῃῃῃ ὃῃῃ leaῖῃῃ ῃαρ leaῖ ὀῖ · ὃ ὀῖῃῃῃ εῃῃῃ ὅο εἰῃῃῃ ῃῃῃῃῃ.
13. ἡῃ Ἀῃῃῃ τῃῃ ῃῃῃ ὀῃῃεαρ τεαῖτ · το λῃῃῃῃῃῃ ὀά leaῃῃῃῃῃ
εεαῖτ
ἡῃεῃῃῃῃ ὃ Εἰῃεαρ ῃῃῃῃ · 'ῤ ναὶ ῃῃῃε na ῃῃς Εἰῃῃῃῃ.
14. λῃῃῃῃῃ ὀῖῃῃῃε το ὀεῃῃῃῃς · ἡῃεῃῃῃῃ Ἀῃῃῃ ἀν ὅεῃῃῃῃῃ
'ῤ ὅῃῃῃ ὀ'ῃῃῃῃῃ ἡῃῃε ὀῃῃῃ · ῃῃῃῃ ὀῖῃῃῃ ἀν ῃῃῃ-Ἀῃῃῃῃ.
15. Ἀτῃῃῃ ἡῃῃ 'ῃαρ leaῖῃῃῃῃ ῃεῃ · ῃἱ ὀῃῃῃῃ ὀῖῃῃῃ τῃῃ α
ὅεῃῃῃῃ
ὀά ὀῖῃῃῃ ὀῃῃε το ὀεῃῃ · Ἀῃῃῃ ἡῃεῃῃῃ¹⁰ ὀ'Εἰῃεαρ.

¹ III, 1, 2, etc. ² D. of Conn Ceadchathach and wife of Oilill Olum. ³ Mile.

⁴ K. II. 86, etc.

⁵ Ir. Nennius. Todd. 56.

⁶ K. II. 94.

⁷ III. 8.

⁸ K. I. 108, Glandore, Co. Cork.

⁹ III. 9.

¹⁰ Four syllables.

[Answer to III.]

1. O Tadhg, censure not Torna ¹ as he cannot answer you. Sad that one should think of a man like him that for friendship he would pervert truth.
2. Take care lest your plea for noble Niall may be biassed. You are of Sadhbh's ² race. Mumha is your fatherland.
3. There lives not one of them to avenge the insult ; if there did, to insult the race of plundering Conn would be to put one's hand in a serpent's nest.
4. I shall not deserve the displeasure of the south,—since in our contention there is no occasion of speaking of Conn's race,—by talking of their victories and battles in defence of the household of Teamhair.
5. I cannot however be silent as to the history of the race of Golamh ³ of the fierce fights. Their battles and wars are known, and I shall pass over them as I promised.
6. Eibhear Donn was one and Eireamhon of Inis Breagh the other of the two leaders of the fleet when they come from Spain to avenge Ith. ⁴
7. Sons of one mother were Eibhear Fionn and Eireamhon from whom we sprang. Yet Eireamhon was over Eibhear though Eireamhon was the younger.
8. After the drowning of Donn of the gatherings it was the judgment of white-kneed Aimhirgin ⁵ that though Eireamhon was the younger he should be in the place of the elder.
9. Therefore you can see whether Torna should be reviled for saying that Eibhear Fionn got the half of Eire from Eireamhon.
10. The sons of Cearmada the three kings opposed Mile's sons in the land. They were slain at the battle of Taillte ⁶—you remember who fought it.
11. Eireamhon killed one of them—Mac Ceacht was the king's name,—as you have mentioned ⁷ one of the three being killed by Eibhear.
12. Then fairhaired Eibhear for a year was half-king of Eire, that is if you think it a full half, the country from the Boyne in the East to Clíodhna's wave. ⁸
13. It is a name which you have no right to mention, ⁹ if you mean to follow truth in your learning, namely "Hibernia" as derived from Eibhear Fionn seeing he was not king of Eire.
14. A scholar has assured us that Hibernus means winter and that it is from the cold of Inis Banba that the name was derived.
15. We have in our own books—and we should not gainsay them—two other reasons which prevent Hibernia ¹⁰ from being derived from Eibhear.

16. Adubar dā sairín t'lnir fáil · rruet libeip acá ran Spáin
mar tarla ne oteacét an-oir · mar dútear as Cloinn
Solanm.
17. Nó oiléan i toirneann srian · t'libeipia ip ead ar éiall
focal sriéasac tís ip teas · i ngabaltar mac Míleas.
18. Ar áirínir oruib t'éacetaib · do fíol Éireamóin éacetais
'na n-asaró a toiréair linn · adubar diomda dā n-áiríninn.
19. Do maoróir maie pé a déinn · roéair banba ó fuil Éibir
ní hé a fámaíl maoróir mé · do fíol Éireamóin uirre.
20. Mó ar maoróir ar iac mbanba · roéair dā otárrair
tarba
a haibne a loéa ma le · a mur-bpuet mara a maie.
21. Áiream dā fíeró a líon · no murt t'Éireamón 'r dā fíol
t'áibuib fíola ip fíer loé · so otáimic an Conn caéac.
22. Ip acá i néirinn ar tór · do bearpad ór fa nuaró nóir⁵
ip ní do maicne an mairir · tug iol-dáta ar éadaisib.
23. Tíreá mas tugrao a coil · cumaoín oile ar línir fíolinn
sémaó é an mur-bpuet mara · tárrair an tOl-muáda.
24. Ar fíol néibir ní fágam · sup murt loé sup lins abainn
ar a real t'lnir banba · dar leat níor b'i a n-áiróda.
25. Acé reacét muisge a-máin do bean · Eoéaró mac Connáoir na
snead
na foirne ar a bfuil do teann⁹ · níor beanrao t'fíotuib
Éireann.
26. Dámaó do fíol Éibir dóib · tpuir ar a nligéirde oisg
mearam so maoróirde lat · Conn Conaire asur Cormac.
27. Soéair Conaire cáima · ip oirdeare iad ran mbanba
cío dúinn déanam a bpeara · acáir as aor aibpeara.
28. Cormac bpeiteam na mureat bfuir · é no traet teasarg na
ríos
ní fástar uisgar ar fearr · as nligéib aorta Éireann.
29. Do Conn ní mure a maoróirde · a cumaoín ar soir nsaoróat
cóis príom-pró so tís Teamra · fíit i n-oróe a simeamna.
30. San oróe éatona no élor · léim bóinne i bfaéaró an
t-iomur¹²
ip léim Comair na tóir rruet · ip dā loé um loé neacac.

¹ K. I. 102. ² K. I. 102. ³ K. II. 106, etc., 126, etc. ⁴ K. II. 122.

⁵ Cf. molaó dúirpe bur nua nóir · a sruir do teils muinead móir. A common phrase so nua(n)de (a)no(i)r (cf. so nua anioḡ, t. mCaire, RIA 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 19) is often confused with this in MSS. cf. Voc. anoir.

⁶ K. II. 116, 118, 128. ⁷ K. II. 128. ⁸ K. II. 124. ⁹ Cf. "a sruaró ní cóir teann," Ant. MacDoḡáin, RIA 23 D 16, p. 185, v. 7. ¹⁰ K. II. 304.

¹¹ Cf. 4 M.; Airne Fingein. Anecdota II.; Magh Léana, O'Curry, p. 96, etc.

¹² i.e., cná iomur, nuts of knowledge. Cf. Dinds.; Metr. Dind.; Laws.

Gloss. ¹³ Waterford Harbour.

16. One reason for Inis Fail being so called is the river Hiber ¹ in Spain, as, before they came from the east, it was the home of Golamh's children.
17. Or else the meaning of Hibernia is the island where the sun goes down,² a Greek word which suits the land taken by Mile's sons (?).
18. As for the deeds of violence you have told of the race of fierce Eireamhon, it would only cause anger were I to mention all those who fell at our hands.
19. You boasted rightly of the benefits conferred on Banba by Eibhear's race. Very different are those conferred by Eireamhon's race which I shall boast of.
20. One has more reason to boast of those benefits conferred on Banba's land from which she got profit, her rivers, her lakes too, her sea-floods her plains.
21. Twenty-two of the rivers of Fodla ³ and twenty lakes burst forth for Eireamhon and his seed before the coming of battling Conn.
22. By them first in Eire ⁴ was gold smelted—it was a new thing ⁵—and a king ⁵ of the descendants of that stock invented colours for clothes.
23. Thirty plains ⁶ they cleared of wood—another benefit for Inis Floinn. Even the irruption Olmhuchadha got it.⁷
24. I do not find that for Eibhear's seed there burst forth lakes or that rivers leaped forth during their period over Inis Banba. One would imagine it was not their fatherland!
25. Except for seven plains ⁸ which Eochaidh son of Connmhaol of the scars cleared, the race of which you are so proud ⁹ cleared no plains of the woods of Eire.
26. If Conn Conaire Cormac, the three of whom one might confidently boast, had been of Eibhear's seed I think they would have been mentioned by you!
27. Splendid are the benefits of brave Conaire over Banba. Why need I tell of them? Even ignorant folk know them.
28. Cormac judge of the true judgments expounded the Instruction of Kings,¹⁰ No greater authority is found in the ancient laws of Eire.
29. Well may one boast of Conn's benefits to the land of the Gaoidheal. Five chief roads ¹¹ to the house of Teamhair were discovered the night of his birth.
30. That same night there was heard the springing forth of the Boinn ¹¹ in which the iomus ¹² was got, of the Cumair-na-dtri-sruth ¹³ and of two other lakes besides ¹¹ Loch nEachach.

31. Crasob Dairí ír crasob Illuḡna · eo-érainn go senuarac éumpra
bile Torṭan eo Rora · fíit ran oróce céatona-ra.
32. Fár a bilead buain a ríot · tomairm a loé léim a rriob
ar érié fótla ḡa fearr cairt · do ríol Éireamóin oróamc.
33. Bean Éireamóin iúl cumhneac · Téa² fial mḡean luḡdeac
do tóḡaib Teamair dá ríocht · go bfuil aca na hoisṡreacṡ.
34. Tiomna luḡoine dá ríol · cairt oile ar Éirinn na ríog
tar fuil Éibir an mīot-óil · atá aḡ aicme Éireamóin.
35. ḡeallaro dō uile i nÉire · fa rácaib éarḡa ír ḡréme
realb na Vanba tre bit ríor · dá ríocht ḡan fuat ḡan éirríot.
36. Rannaro a élañ narpīurō⁵ mōro · íre i ḡcūis rannair fa éois
trí céad bliadān do buí an rann · ḡan éac do téacṡ tar
tōrainn.
37. Iar mbriead dá caoḡad cat · Tuacal Teacṡmar triac go raṡ
fuair pé na ráca rōmhe · ó éac mar fuair luḡoine.
38. Ruirṡ oireacair lñe fēil · leo céana acṡ Cairéal amāin
o'fuil Éireamóin do deapō rin · realb Éireann tar fuil
nÉibir.
39. Oileac na ríog ráṡ Cruačna · Teamair bṡeas Teamair luac na
llár laiḡean eamain Ulaṡ · oṡair⁸ real na rean-éurad.
40. Ad-éi ḡac cúir fār cúir lliall · an-flait i leit Cuirc na ḡcliar
mac eacac naṡ obad ḡleo · péac an oirdear a aicce.
41. Ír é rin tug ar ṡorna · 'r ní báir ne ríol ḡCunn ḡCnobda
mar do éirṡ ne lliall go neart · 'r ní dá fēirḡ tug an
t-éirdeacṡ.
42. Com-ḡar dūinne ír oibṡe deap · Ír ó bfuil an tí ḡan deap¹⁰
ní ria ṡorna ón taob a-muiḡ · luacair Deaḡarṡ a dūcaisḡ.
43. Duirdeac ír beirte do ṡorc · do ṡorna fa beir na toṡṡ
nar cumhniḡ ar cumhniḡ ríob · do ríogṡarṡ rleacṡa Éibir.
44. O'easla go n-áiréamāṡ lliall · ríogṡarṡ Teampra ṡoir ír tír
cōir do ḡab ṡorna pé otaob · do feacṡ ḡceatṡair nar
cōmmaoib.
45. llior cin ó ṡorc mac luḡdeac · éin-rí do ríogṡarṡ Mumhneac
deacair duit taḡra go teann · do ḡab oireacair Éireann.

¹ Cf. O'Curry's *Magh Léana*, p. 96; O'Flaherty's *Ogygia*, II. 207; *Rev. Celt.*, xv., 419, 445; xvi., 278; *C.Z.*, v. 21, *Eriu*. iv. 150. ² Dissyllable.
³ K. II. 104. ⁴ K. II. 156. ⁵ mīur (<marom) generally intrans., cf.
iv. 21, 24. u-form perhaps owing to mūdūisim. ⁶ K. II. 156.
⁷ K. II. 244. ⁸ Cf. "fa ríol nEamna do b'fíú a dōcair · do éú pé lá (realba?)
a oṡair air." "Fór aḡ corṡaib caṡa Éirne · uacṡa ḡen go bfuair a luas:
níor deapc aḡ teacṡ ar ḡac toṡar · fearc ír leacṡ ír oṡar uad." p. óḡ me
an Uairṡ, RIA 23 C 23, p. 222, v. 8, 11. ⁹ Knowth, Co. Meath. ¹⁰ Deap
"obscurity," frequent in phrase ḡan c., cf. óir nar é. é ar na hoib.
"questions, problems"; "i ḡceapōcain na ḡc. nōpcaṡ," p. ón éaince, RIA
23 L 17, p. 149, v. 10; E 15, p. 181, v. 15.

31. The tree of Dathi and the tree of Mughna, yew-trees (K) with fragrant produce, the tree of Torta, the yew of Ros were found that same night.¹
32. The growth of her trees, the cutting of her woods, the bursting forth of her lakes, the springing forth of her streams,—what better charter could Eireamhon's seed have to Fodhla?
33. Eireamhon's wife—it is well-known—Tea² noble daughter of Lughaidh, built Teamhair for her race so that it is their inheritance.³
34. Iughoine's testament to his seed is another proof of the possession of kingly Eire held by Eireamhon's race, and not by the race of Eibhear of the mead-feasts.⁴
35. They all in Eire promise him by the sureties of the moon and sun, possession of Banba for ever, and to have no hatred or hostility to his stock.
36. His sons who broke⁵ not covenant divide her in twenty-five parts.⁶ That division lasted for three hundred years and none transgressed it.
37. The prosperous lord Tuathal Teachtmar after winning fifty battles exacted the above sureties from all as Iughoine had done.⁷
38. The palaces of pre-eminence of Inis Fail, which, except only Caiseal, belong to them show too that Eireamhon's stock and not Eibhear's owned Eire.
39. Oileach of the kings, the fort of Cruachain, Teamhair of the Breagha, Teamhair of Luachair, Nas of the Laighin, Eamhain of the Ulaidh were once the graves⁸ of the old heroes.
40. You see why Niall called Corc the poets' friend a usurper. Consider if it be right to gainsay Eochaidh's son who never refused fight.
41. That is why Torna listened to powerful Niall; it was not through bias for the race of Conn of Cnodhbha,⁹ and it was not owing to Niall's anger that Torna gave ear to him.
42. Equally near to us and to you is Ir from whom descended the famous¹⁰ poet. Torna is just as near to yonder side (Mumha). Luachair Deaghaidh was his country.
43. Corc should be grateful to Torna for his silence, for his not recalling what you recall of the kings of Eibhear's race!
44. It was through his fear lest Niall might recall all the kings of Teamhair east and west that Torna took the right course in reference to your twenty-eight kings, and did not boast of them.
45. No king of the kings of Mumha descended from Corc son of Lughaidh ever held the sovereignty of Eire. It would be hard for you to argue that with confidence.

46. Buirdean creiririr ir céad níos . o'fuil Éireannóin ir é a lion
i n-éagais Néill ir n-óime . acá ran réim níosraide.
47. Tiomna lúgoine ar Éirinn . ir Tuatail Teacmair o'férdlim
cug Niall an gcéadna dá éloinn . n-a n-éas ar éadair
Cróboing.
48. Réimear ceacmacao 'r ré níos . do bí an tiomna-ra dá fíol
realt na hÉireann ná marrao . ar maicne Néill Naor-
giallaig.
49. Ní maic liom a dol ór air . oir mar do easrair a Taróg
go raibe níor mhó ná leac . o'Éirinn as Eošan Taróleac.
50. Méao bar n-aróbre ir aicne óam . ar leic Moša na múr nglan
nar maoirir an míre ar Conn . 'r na cóigir san beic comérom.
51. Síbe do féacrao orra . ar túr i ocrát a ionna
coibéir dá cóigead oile . cóigead éloinne Rudruige.
52. Do béara duit a óemh . féac rean-ionn fleacra Némir
cúir eir go gcomérom ionna . do niao o'Éirinn eacorra.
53. Don ionn rin ir ead ar cian . ó Ódinn go Toirunir eiar
ruaill ré mear don iac-fóo rean . an bfuil ann ac don
cóigead.
54. Roinn oile tarla ar an tír . ior fluoc Éibir míc Ír
bar ocrí cúigir eiréar ann . réir n-á cóigir i gcomérom.
55. Céad bliadán ar bail do bí . Eirgir na ionna-ra ar i
ó Inbear Colbca na gceac . gur an gcuán lán le lunnac.
56. Fraoch mac Éibir 'r a eacérom . ir oírb cugad an eacé-
rom
fuair Eošan ó mac Úna . ra óeoir níor fáic ionmúca.
57. Ná beir uam ní dá maoiréam . ar eir mé nó go maoiréar
'r níor gabair ac leic-réal lag . re marbad Moša Nuadad.
58. Ir amlaró fuair rgeala . Eošan míoar ar Muig Léana
nac raib i gcaoir mar Conn . do oírg a harmaib eacérom.
59. Seirir ar marom go moe . a éolad níor éolad troc¹¹
mar nac raibe comh-lion céad . do bí Conn ar a coméad.

¹ K. II. 244. ² Teamhair, *i.e.*, Eire. ³ III. 23. Tadhg had argued that Eibhear's Half contained of the five Provinces (made by the Firbolg, K. I. 107) more than three, *i.e.*, two Mumhas, Laighin (most of it) and part of Connachta. Lughaidh here points out that North Laighin (afterwards Midhe) was Conn's and that not the number of provinces, but extent of territory should be the basis of the comparison. To prove this is object of St. 51-55. ⁴ K. I. 106, *i.e.* It is equal to your two Mumhas. Therefore look to the extent rather than to number of provinces. ⁵ Ibid. ⁶ *i.e.*, the extent of each part was equal, even though any one part included more than one province according to your system of counting. ⁷ *i.e.*, Cearmna and Sobhairce. Their dividing line was from Drogheda to Limerick. ⁸ *i.e.*, the Southern Half which you would count as three provinces is equal to the North Half in which you would count only two. ⁹ Fraoch Mileasach, son of Eibhear, King of Spain. cf. Magh Léana, xx., 45, etc. ¹⁰ III. 25. ¹¹ Cf. troic, O'R.; Wind. Wört; Vis. McGlinne.

46. One hundred and six kings of Eireamhon's race before and after Niall are in the Roll of Kings.
47. The disposition which Iughoine made of Eire, and which Tuathal Teachtmhar¹ gave to Feidhlim, that same testament for the City of Crobhaing² Niall before his death gave to his sons.
48. For the period of forty-six kings that inheritance rested with his race. Claim not therefore the possession of Eire from the race of Niall Naoi-ghiallach.
49. I am sorry that it should be known abroad that you, Tadhg, argued³ that more than half of Eire belonged to splendid Eoghan.
50. I see how excessive is your pride in Leath-Mhogha of the white forts, as you did not allow that Midhe belonged to Conn, and that the provinces were not equal.
51. Whoever would have seen them at their first sharing would have seen that the province of the race of Rudhraighe was equal to two other provinces.⁴
52. Look at the old division of the race of Neimheadh.⁵ It will prove the point⁶ to you. They divide Eire between them in three parts with equality of division.
53. A third of that division is the land from the Boinn to Toirinis in the west. It is a point of small consequence whether that ancient sodded-land is called one province.
54. Another division that was made of the land was that between the race of Eibhear, son of Ir.⁷ Your three provinces may be put down as equivalent to our two provinces.⁸
55. For one hundred years the Eiscir of that division remained good. It is from Inbhear Colbhtha of the Spoils to the harbour near Luimneach.
56. It was really owing to Fraoch,⁹ son of Eibhear and to his foreigners that the proper division which Eoghan got from Una's son was granted. At last there was no reason left for jealousy.
57. Do not take me as boasting of anything until I mention it. You gave¹⁰ but a lame story about the murder of Mogh Nuadhad.
58. It is thus I have heard the tale about Eoghan at Magh Leana. He put his trust in an army of foreign troops, and was not on the alert like Conn.
59. Conn went forth in the early morning—his sleep was not the sleep of sluggards.¹¹ Because Conn had not equal numbers of troops he was on his guard.

60. Δ mic Dáire ip dāor an bpeāt · mār feall do nāmuro ar neac
 toul ran ló d'ionnpuige air · gē beāt na luige ar a leabair.
 61. Suin air do luḡaró lāḡa · níor maoirōte duit ḡo dāna
 ní hé luḡaró do mār d'air · aēt liogairne ḡo laocōaēt.
 62. Δ ḡníoim opair ná hainmnis · liogairne laocō do laiguib
 bpatair air mic Cuinn na ḡeāt · mac donḡura mic Eacac.
 63. Ná háirín é ar an Muráin · 'r ḡan aēt diai ran dā luḡaró
 eacōronnais ip iad do bair · caēt mucronne ro maoirōir.
 64. Moḡ Ruit do flioēt Ír oirōeir · fa-deara dī-miā d'ōpmaic
 Caoille an Druad ar dearbād air · ní hionmāorōte é ar
 fīacāir.
 65. Dār Cairbre an mōḡ nācāis ⁶ · Semeón mac Ceirb a bpatair
 i ḡeāt ḡadra ip leir do tuit · torcāir an fīan na éaruc.⁷
 66. Teacēt le fēin fīnn nar n-aḡaró · do dīogail doō mac ḡararó
 dāroir Moḡ Corb ní rḡeal nua · i n-iomairḡ rēibe Sean-Cua.

Δ ΤΑΙΩΣ.

¹ III. 26. ² Eocharó and Conn were two sons of Feidhlimidh Reachtmhar.
³ Lughaidh Lagha and Lughaidh Mac Con, K. II. 280. ⁴ K. II. 320. ⁵ Two
 cantreds in Fermoy. Eriu, iv. 222, 229. ⁶ ? Syll. short v. Var. Lect., K. II.
 354. ⁷ I n-é. comes to mean "in return for" cf. ón bpile ḡan faobair ḡo
 blaō . uile i n-éiruc an ḡníoimā, "air Ó Caoim, RIA 23 G 21, p. 171, v. 2.
⁸ Of the race of Morua. ⁹ Shanahoe, Co. Limerick.

60. Son of Daire, it is a partial judgment on your part if you imagine that it is treachery against a man for a foe to go in daylight to attack him even though the man be lying on his bed.
61. You should not have attributed so boldly the death of Art to Lughaidh Lagha.¹ It was not Lughaidh who killed Art but Lioghairne in brave combat.
62. Do not claim Lioghairne's deed for your side. He was a hero of the Laighin, a kinsman of Art son of battling Conn, and a son of Aongus son of Eochaidh.²
63. Do not count it as a victory of Mumha, seeing that the two Lughaidhs³ were only two men. It is foreigners who won the fight of Mucroimhe which you boasted of.
64. It was Mogh Ruith of the stock of famous Ir who caused the dishonour of Cormac.⁴ Caoille an Druadh⁵ is a proof of it. Do not attribute it to Fiachaidh.
65. As for the death of Cairbre the king of many forts (?) it was by Semeon, son of Cearb his kinsman that he was slain at Gabhra.⁶ The Fian fell in revenge⁷ for him.
66. For his coming with the Fian of Finn against us vengeance was taken by Aodh son of Garaidh⁸ when he slew Mogh Corb—it is an old story—in the fight at the hill of Sean-Chua.⁹

ÉISTO A LUĞAÍO REM LABRA. ΤΑΟΥΣ ΜΕΘΩΙΡΕ COT.

1. Éirto a luğarò rem labra • ó ταιοι-ρε ι n-alc m'asallma
léis Topna reacuinn so re • tabair féin daimra t'aire.
2. O'easla nac tiocra a d'uarò • léisreao beasán aignir uaim
to deapbad a ndubairt mé • ir o'aitceo ar aill uaire.
3. Sac fpeasra tugar ar illall • gé tú o'eanfuit ir Corp tiar
ní deacár céim tar an gcóir • mar bur follur i gcéao-óir.
4. Munab as iarrarò bine • to déanamh duib ar file
ní bur cuirte duit a-mac • oioğail fala ná éasnac.
5. Oá mberoir rluóct cpóda Cuinn • na gcéto-neart as eirdeact
puinn
nóir cuirte dóib um asarò • act file dom ionnamail.
6. Níor éasnurdear aicme Cuinn • níor ceart an tuigre a ráo
puinn
ar ron ceirt clann Éibir fínn • to easra mar to ólisfínn.
7. So dearb ir fearac daoib féin • ní dóisgab riadain i gcéim
oá mbemnn pe héasnac clann Cuinn • nac mar dubart
a-dearpuinn.
8. Ní mé to cairisreao clú a ngníom • pe raob-éiallaib to
buam doib
nó oá mberoir leo locta • níor cairisear a lom-nocta.
9. To cím fein nac fulang lib • beasán o'fir-terto cloinne
Éibir
to labra daim-ra na scae • ní gabtaoi é act na éasnac.
10. Oligim ceart cloinne Éibir • to easra ann sac ár céillir
nó so ndeacainn reaca ro • níor b oirdear o'don mo tuda.⁵
11. Ór éisgan so mbia 'nar ndán • fínnne bur rearb pé ráo
ní mire ar éiontae fir ro • act illall Topna asur tura.
12. Deas nac ramail liom pe m'as • a deact dar cuir rib ornn
o'áo
oul i gcom-ğar raear mé • o'onóir bar n-aicme uairle.
13. Iao féin to goim a céile • ó nac uarò to b'fearr Éire
léisim rin topam ir topc • act to deapbad a ndubairt.
14. To bean Éibear na meao-ól • don cloinn oile ir o'Éireamón
deapbad san neac ór a cíonn • roga leite o'fóo Éireann.
15. Deas nac rug rluóct Ír amáin • urmóir a leite ar a lámh
ionnur nac cóir déanamh tinn • ar poinn Éireamóin o'Éirinn.
16. Ní raibe as poinn pe héibear • to fíol bpeoğain act éin-fear
mac lte pé o'táirur oe • tríoča céao Corca Luighe.

¹ IV. 1. ² IV. 2. ³ IV. 4. ⁴ IV. 3. ⁵ Cf. G. Jour, Apr., 1909; Walsh, 1911. Mağ nusbat, 1914, p. 42. In X. 25, MSS. have tuğ; also cf. "San focal ir luğ lib • tacar to tuğ cairrib," S. mc an Bair, RIA 23 L 17, II.148, v. 6 ⁶ K. I. 108. ⁷ Ancestor of Mile, K. II. 46. ⁸ Lughaidh, K. p. 98.

[Answer to IV.]

1. Listen, Lughaidh, to my words as you can answer me.¹
Leave Torna alone for a while. Pay attention to me.
2. Lest it (your refutation) may not come from the North I will permit myself a little argumentation to prove what I said, and to refute some of what you said.
3. As regards my answer to Niall, though I am of Corc's race² I overstepped not truth as will be clear forthwith.
4. Unless you be striving to injure a poet you should not show severity hostility or reviling.
5. Were the valiant race of Conn in their first strength and listening to us they would have pitted against me a poet like myself.³
6. I did not revile Conn's race—it was not right to say so to me⁴—because of a desire to defend the rights of the race of Eibhear Fionn, as I should have been entitled to do.
7. Surely you yourselves know—I shall not take my witness from afar—that had I wished to revile Conn's race I would not have spoken as I did.
8. I would not have striven by foolish etymologies to rob them of the fame of their deeds; nor if they had faults did I seek to expose them.
9. I see that you cannot bear that I should give even a little of the evidence for the battles of the children of Eibhear. You take it all as so much reviling.
10. I am entitled to plead the rights of Eibhear's race in every reasonable case. Till I had gone beyond that no one should have reproached⁵ me.
11. As there must be in my poem truth which will be unpleasant to speak, I am not responsible for that but Niall and Torna and yourself.
12. Almost like death to me is the consequence of the (charge of) envy of which you accuse me, namely the close criticism I shall proceed to make of the honour of your noble race.
13. Since Eire was not improved by their mutual slaughter I shall leave that alone except for the purpose of proving what I have said.
14. Eibhear of the mead-feasts took from the other sons and from Eireamhon his choice half of Eire's land—a proof that none of them was his superior.
15. Ir's⁶ race took most of his half from Eireamhon so that you have no right to be proud of Eireamhon's share of Eire.
16. There was only one man of Breoghan's⁷ race sharing his land with Eibhear, namely, the son of Ith⁸ by whom was got of it the cantred Corca Luighdhe.

17. Dá b'féadad neac ar gac taobh · roinn éireann eatorra
ar don
tuigfí nác faibé mar rin · éireamón ór cionn éibír.
18. An b'peat ataoi do labhra · do b'peit d'ámhirsin ámhra
fašam i porš nō i laoir lib · mar fa gnat² glór ámh-irsin.
19. I porš³ ruš ámhirsin b'peit · roir a b'ráitib gán éleit
dar éuir iao ar fead naoi toinn · ir tuait d'ac-šlan dē
Danann.
20. I gcom-uam fileata ar tuinn · do ráir na b'uaēra na
luinš
d'iarraō roirib dā n-eacēra · dar ršuir⁴ an nšaoit
nōraoirēacēta.
21. I n-airē filead a-rír · do labair aš teacē i tōir
mar tā gā lān do mēabair · do rūr éirš i n-inbēarab.
22. An b'peit rin dā mbeiread pé · a lušarō an gšerēe fēin
nác fuigfíōe i n-airēe linn · mar gac airēe dā n-áirūim.
23. Ní cloir an impearan ann · clann mīleacō aš teacē anall
ir ead fa haighe don tōruinš · com-barō com-cōrnam com-
roinn.
24. Šan impearain aš dā neac · gniom nō mašail ní bī b'peat
cionnur do bēarēaoi mar roin · b'peat ir iao šan impearain.
25. Mior cūrēta b'peat i leit ruad · šan beit oligēac šan beit
buan
nīor ōligē dōib i mar roin · nīor buana dōib na dēašarō.
26. Dā dēarūad rin ir rinnir · do tošēaoi i n-éirinn innirš
mar ēann fine reac gac fear · ó roin aš macab mīleacō.
27. Šan leabar labrar don b'peit · ór éigean dūinn šan a éleit
atāro neite pé gcoir roin · gā tōáro feanēair na n-ašarō.
28. Mā tīš fēin na ašarō fēin · lušarēe ir cōir beit dā péir
a řamail ní ršiat cōrnam · do b'peit iongnāit ēašcōřmail.
29. Dā b'fašad neac ionad dūinn · faoa ó ēarē ar éirinn
uill
éire nīor dūēaiš dō roin · nīor fealbūiš i 'r nīor cōrain.
30. Amīarō mēarain šur beanta · bēim ar tōrna fa tēacēta
tar glór ar a tōuigfead fear · urruim rinnir do
řoirēar.
31. Ir lōr leam-ra an leac ar fearr · tarla ar éibear řēašuin
řeang
roša leite don dā leac · mar dēarūōad go dēminēac.

¹ IV. 8. ² For uses of gnat v. Vocab. Cf. "a řlarē ar dāingne řūn
gnat · a tūr comāple i gconāc," T. mēōāire, RIA 23 C 18, p. 66, v. 43.

³ Ir. Texte, II. 35, 61. Hardiman, II. 349. ⁴ Cf. "a řšur řošla i b'raōē
dēabēā" "Thou who checkest plunder," T. mēōāire, RIA 23 C 18 p. 66, v.

44. ⁵ Trans. Ossianic Soc., v. 237; Ir. Texte iii. 62. ⁶? ⁷ IV. 9.

⁸ IV. 12.

17. If any one examines in every way the division of Eire between them he will see that Eireamhon was not over Eibhear.
18. As for the judgment you mention ¹ as given by noble Aimhirgin, let me find it in "rosc" or lay as is usual ² with the utterances of Aimhirgin.
19. In a "rosc" ³ Aimhirgin gave his judgment between his brothers clearly by which he put them and the comely Tuatha De Danan back nine waves' length.
20. In poetic measure in his ship on the wave praying for prosperity for their journey he spoke the words by which he stopped ⁴ the magic wind.
21. In poetic composition did he also speak when landing, as many men have by heart (such chants) for seeking fish in river-mouths. ⁵
22. Had he given that judgment, Lughaidh, do you believe that it would not be found in poetic form in our possession like the other ones I mention?
23. No dispute was ever recorded on that occasion when Mile's sons were landing. Their disposition was mutual affection, mutual effort and fair sharing.
24. Unless there be a dispute between two men or as regards two actions or rules there can be no judgment (?). How then could there have been a judgment seeing they had no dispute?
25. A judgment without force of law or lasting effect should not be attributed to a sage. It did not constitute a law or fixture for them afterwards.
26. As proof of that, elders before others were always chosen afterwards by Mile's sons in sea-girt Eire to rule the tribe.
27. In the book ⁶ which speaks of the judgment—since I must not deny its existence—there are said many things besides, to which the lore of the ancients is opposed.
28. As it contradicts itself there is the less reason for following it. A book like it is no shield of defence for a strange and extraordinary judgment.
29. If one succeeded to the place of Donn that is not constituting a claim to Eire (K), Eire was not his country, he never possessed it nor fought for it.
30. Thus I think that Torna is to be blamed for referring ⁷ to a passage whence one might conclude that the elder should yield submission to the younger.
31. I am quite satisfied ⁸ with the better half that fell to splendid graceful Eibhear, the choice half of the two halves, as I shall prove with certainty.

32. 1r fearr leat éibir go n-aoib • ó bDinn toir go Clionna
éaoim
ná an leat ó bDinn go rribb bDoin • tugad o'Éireamón
angbaró.
33. Mó ar mearpaisgte o'fuaét do deap • lionmaire do mil do
meap
foisre da gac maic tar mair • lia a caipaca a com-urraim.
34. Mó do toirur triocao céao • bairr fōr ar a maic a méao
ní ar an airo a bfuil roin • labharo go trom na hušdar.
35. fada ó tansar tar an ainm • iomda rein-ršribinn dā gairm
tar ceann éiomao ciall do éur • ní ciocra díot a díultao.
36. Na hil-cialla ataoi do ríom • dā bfiarpaisgead neac cia
díob
dā otis an t-ainm o'iaé breaš • cuma leatra ac naé o'Éibear.
37. Do geadta i bfuil ar léigear • Éibear dard ainm hibéur
hibernia sur dā ainm tiz • i oteangtaib naé i an Scoitic.
38. Atáro tíre ar treire i bfuacé • an t-ainm cíó naé díob do
puacé
már ó méao fuaéta tiz rin • fiarpaisg uaim-re doo léigníó.
39. Gé tá Éire ran airo tiar • atáro tíre i doirneann srian
le linn curca a cuarca a le • naé hibernia ná Éire.
40. 1r follur turnam don šreín • ann gac tír fāšbar oia néir
ó tá an domān i moó éruinn • 1r rpéar šreíne na ceapcuill.
41. Ainm do tír reac a céile • mar rin tré turnam šreíne
dā noeacáo eagnuó dā meap • ní meapao sur éur
oirdeap.
42. Daoine as cneveamāin dā gcéill • cóšbaro an srian ceap dā
rreim
dā leana ar cialla mar roin • ná rloinn ó Téa Teamair.
43. fōcail il-ciallao féacair • na gcuir mói n-ušdar céapao
breiteamnar díneac díob roin • go srian⁶ a bfuil ní féaoair.⁷
44. Na cialla éuire ran ainm • má tá tarba dō na gairm
ó naé tú ar breiteam orra • maic áit éibir eatorra.
45. Áiréam éacé ní mé do tmaill • ar otúr acé Topna asur
hail
ní orra baó mó mo gēan • a noéanam roin nó a n-áiréam.
46. Níor maordeap meirde a noéinnm • rošair ríol éibir o'Éirunn
mó o'Éirunn go mói ré meap • ar fāšbar díob ná ar áirmeap.

¹ K. II. 96. There were two Srub Broin, one in W. Munster, this one in Co. Donegal (Stroove).. ² Cf. Eriu, iii. 12. Jeremias, i. 14, etc.

³ IV. 14-17. ⁴ Syllable short. ⁵ IV. 33, i.e., as in this case so in others you should follow the traditional derivation. ⁶ < etar. Prototon. Pres.

Pass of ad-cota. Cf. Thurneys § 540. ⁷ Cf. "fior srian iomall fa doimfeap • o'fior o'fionngall 1r o'fior-šaoirdeal," C. McDáire, RIA 23 F 16, p. 32, v. 41. ⁸ IV. 21, etc.

32. Eibhear's fair half from the Boinn in the East to fair Clíodhna is better than the half from the Boinn to Srubh Broin ¹ which was given to fierce Eireamhon.
33. It is more temperate in cold and heat, fuller of honey and fruit, nearer to all goods over-sea, richer in cities and neighbours.
34. Greater is it in number of cantreds. Its size too crowns its excellence. It is not of the quarter where these advantages are that writers speak harshly! ²
35. Long ago has the name (Hibernia, i.e. Eibhear's land) been written of. Many old writings apply it. In spite of your inventing many other meanings you cannot deny it.
36. Were one to ask which of the various meanings you enumerate ³ is the one whence comes the name of the land of the Breagha ⁴ you care not, provided it be not from Eibhear.
37. Besides all I have read you will find in languages other than the Scottic that "Hibernia" comes from "Eibhear" called "Hiberus." (K).
38. There are lands of harsher cold; ask your scholar from me why the name has not been applied to them, if it comes from excess of cold.
39. Though Eire is in the West, there are other lands not called Hibernia or Eire where the sun in its journey sets.
40. The setting of the sun is clearly seen in every land it leaves behind, since the world is of a round shape, and the solar firmament is a sphere.
41. That one land rather than another should be called after the sunset—a sage on examining the matter would find such an explanation a poor one.
42. People who trust their own sense destroy at its root the true process of judgment. If you wish to get meanings like that do not derive Teamhair from Tea. ⁵
43. Let the words of varied meanings be examined, those in which many authors find a (*i.e.*, each a different) sense. Such men have ⁶ no straight method of settling the fundamental meaning ⁷ of the words.
44. As you are not the judge as to the derivations you mention for the name (Hibernia), (the derivation from) Eibhear has a good place—if that be a benefit to him. (K).
45. It was not I who started the recounting of the crimes. ⁸ I was merely answering Niall. I love them none the more for those crimes or for the story of them. (K).
46. I did not recount—it would have been the worse for you—(all) the benefits of Eibhear's race to Eire. Much more important to Eire was what I omitted than what I said.

47. ʒrōeāθ tiocparθ ʋoθ laorēeāθ · fuil rʒuirpēar mē ʒo
maorēeāθ
ročairi ó fuil éibiri fīnn · ar mó ʋo fōiri ar éirinn.
48. Aēt ʒo ʋeuzari fpeaʒpa ar túr · fēirpōe an aʒōe¹ a curi i
nolúr
orē ann ʒač tarba čionóil² · māorē ar aicme éipeamōm.
49. An ʋ'earbarθ ʒnōm ʒčoiri pē rārō · nō le č-iomaθ labpa
lān³
māorē ročairi orpa rin · ʒan aon čuro ʋóib na ʋóeinim.
50. Oibpūʒte a ʋúl ar čoil nDē · ʋo fealbāθ⁴ ʋóib nīor mōl
mē
mō ʒo mōr ʋuit-pe ir ʋóib · ʋo mārla é ná ʋ'onōir.
51. ʋā māorē tú mari bpeit ʒil · oibpūʒte ʋé ʋóib pē linn
ar loruarθ ir māorēri rin · bpeit Čriort pē linn i mDēitil.
52. ʒač loč ʒač linn ʋā labpa · ór ʋóib pēin čēro a ʋtarba
fuil éibiri ir ʋóib ʋo linʒ · ar a ʒcuro pēin ʋon éirinn.
53. Ačáro a lān ʋo ločair · ir araile ʋo ppočair
aʒ ar mó ʋ'inir ʋanba · a ʋoit ná a ʋoeaʒ-čarba.
54. ʋārōčeari leo nī ročari paori · ceačpa aʒur ʋaoime maraon
ʒan fēari ʒan ioč congbarθ poim · a mbi fūčā ʋon čalmāim.
55. ʒibē mait nō pait ʋo maθ · nočā māorēčē ar éin-piʒ iao
aēt ar an piʒ ar pi ar nim · nar iari congnaim pā ʋóeinim.
56. Muʒe ʋo ʋuain a čoil lib · aomāim ʒomaθ ročari rin
mō ʋo ročari buain na maʒ · ʋo čoil-pleaʒ ʋoonn-puaθ
nDana.
57. līori ʋoirpēāθ aēt allur baill · aʒ riol ʒCuinn aʒ čearʒaθ
čpānn
ʋ'fuil ʋāil ʒčair ʋo ʋoirpēāθ čioč · aʒ leorθ pleaʒ lučt⁷
na luirpōč.
58. Muna beantaoi nī čeilim · ʋon čoil pā ʋeoiz a-čeiřim
beaʒ tarba a ʋčearʒaθ ar túr · maʒe fōōla ir é a n-iomčúr.
59. ʋuain maʒ nēipeann čear ir čuarθ · ʋon čoil rin ʋar ʋočpa
a mbuain
riol nēibiri ir iao ʋo ʋean · ir orpa ar čoiri a n-āipeam.
60. An muir-bpūčt mapa māorē · a luāθ ʒā ʒlōr ar paoribē
mār mari ročari māorē a luʒ · mó a ʋočari ná a ročari.
61. Mār é a māorēam ʋo nī · léim paiprʒe čar bloiz ʋo čir
čorāil ʒo māorēpōe poim · ʋā mbārčt uile ar ʋoūčaiʒ.

¹ Also oigōe, oige. Cf. Gloss. Laws, and note on xxii. 17. ² Leg. an čionóil? ³ Cf. infra VI. 269; XVI. 184; XVIII. 14; also fear labarčā lāim Anecd. ii., p. 51. ll. 8, 13, 14; T.C.D. F. 4, 13, fol. 6a, a spokesman with full powers (K). ⁴ Cf. "a firi fealbap ʋuit an ʋān," ʒ. mc an ʋairp, RIA 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 1. ⁵ IV. 20, etc. ⁶ IV. 23. ⁷ Lučt na l., taken as one word or else lučt is genitive for lučča, cf. infra 177. ⁸ i.e., Danes' spears. ⁹ IV. 23.

47. Yet the result of your provoking me will be that, before I cease, I shall mention those benefits of the race of Eibhear Fionn which benefited Eire most.
48. But first—the poem¹ will be the better for its being made compact—let me answer you about the benefits of your party² which you boast of on behalf of Eireamhon's race.
49. Is it from want of deeds fit to be mentioned, or from loquacity³ that you boast for them of benefits, in conferring which they had no part?
50. I thought it wrong that they should take the credit⁴ of the operations of God's elements according to His will. This was rather to insult than to do honour to you and your folk.
51. If you attribute to them as a mark of superiority the operations of God in their day you should attribute to Herod Christ's birth at Bethlehem in his reign.
52. As the benefit of every lake and pool which you mention⁵ accrues to them (i.e. Eireamhon's race) they burst forth for Eibhear's race too on their part of Eire.
53. There are many lakes and streams too which do more harm than benefit to Inis Banba.
54. By them are drowned—a dear benefit!—cattle and men too. They keep all the land beneath them without grass or corn.
55. Whatever good or harm they do is not to be attributed to any king, but to the King of kings in Heaven who asked no one's help in creating them.
56. As for your clearing plains from wood⁶ I grant that to be a benefit, but a greater benefit was the clearing of the plains from the forest of the dark red lances of the Danars.
57. In cutting trees Conn's race shed only their sweat. Showers of blood were shed by the Dal gCais in cutting down the spears of the mailed heroes.⁷
58. Had they not been cleared afterwards—I cannot be silent as to this—of the wood I speak of, small advantage would have been those of the plains of Fodla that were cleared previously—seeing their history.
59. The clearing of the plains of Eire, South and North from that wood⁸ of which it was difficult to clear them, was done by Eibhear's race and should be attributed to it.
60. As for the sea-incursion you speak of⁹—how foolish to mention it!—if you mention it as a benefit, its harm was greater than its benefit.
61. If it be the bursting of the sea over a part of the land which makes you boast of it you probably would boast of our whole country being flooded!

62. Δτάρο τίρε μαίτ αν βρεατ · 'ρ ιρ έ αρ μολατ ιονντα αρ νεαε
bloḡ talman dā ttiortā dē · to buain t'faiṛṛṣe nō t'uirṣe.
63. Ιί ποέαρ ḡαν έυτο τοίβ πέιν · το ποηρατ ριουετ έιβιρ πέιλ
poéair ḡā paḡar na ḡeall · to pōhpaṛ t'fearaiḡ éireann.
64. Εοḡαν τυḡ ιατ ό ḡορτα · υḡιαν ό ḡαορ-υḡιυτο ό ḡοορτα
poéair to fōir cāc mar roin · faḡām aḡat óo pōḡḡarā.
65. Ταρ λεατ το β'αταρτα τοίβ · εḡιόε ḡanḡa ḡo n-iomaṛ
plōiḡ
na ḡflaitéar ní taṛta tōi · plāḡa ḡorta náro ḡeinnti.
66. Ιί τυḡ ní τοίβ τά ταṛτα · αρ φατ α ḡέ αρ ḡonn mḡanḡa
poinn tōi to éṛéan nō to laḡ · taṛ leat to baṛ leo an
leanab.
67. ḡlōr mar rin ní fuil ḡé ḡāṛ · ḡan ṛḡuings ar a nḡéine a
lán
luḡaroe ιρ cóir tḡéanañ tṛum · ar éloinn éibir na ḡconéloinn.
68. Cúḡeāt paor óo pōḡḡarā tuarō · aḡ élainn éibir mōr an
buarō
ḡac neac taṛ pōḡāṛ ton élainn · paoirṛe tuarō air ní
faḡām.
69. Αρ ḡiōl nḡibir ar to éṛiúr · αιṛneāt ḡúinn ar aon a n-iúl
maorḡeañ mōr níor tḡéanta ḡuit · aēt aḡāin ḡuaṛpa
ḡormaic.
70. Τάινḡ éin-ḡi t'fuil éibir · ταρ éir ḡéill ιρ Cuṛc ééillḡ
to b'fearr t'fērōm t'éirunn uile · ná ḡiall Conn ιρ Conaire
71. Socair to pōḡḡarāe a-nuaṛ · áirni leat ḡo léir ḡan luar
meāt poéair ḡuain mīc ḡé-bionn · ní fuḡe to pōḡḡarā
éireann.
72. Το cabpaṛ aor léiḡinn laiṛ · το aē-éataiḡ an eaḡlaiṛ
tuḡ dā ḡac ṛḡuings taṛ mīan ṛḡol · coṛtaṛ léiḡinn luar
leabap.
73. Τυḡ τά éléiréib πέιν ḡac cill · t'aimrḡeoin na loingṛeac
taṛ linn
tuḡiaṛmberé faṛ paoirṛe tṛum · paoirṛe dā ḡflaitéib fearṛainn.
74. Α ṛtuḡ luēt na long ṛeolta · leo ar ḡac tíṛ t'iaṛéar
éōṛpa
ar nḡol aḡe ar a ṛṛeabaiḡ · to poinn ḡuain ar ḡaorḡealaiḡ.
75. Αn maor to bí ar ḡac mbaile · τυḡ ḡuain fa ḡṛeic a ṛtoile
an buana to bí ar ḡac tiḡ · τυḡ mar mōḡa ton mūinnṛiṛ.
76. Ιaṛmberé ton éirunn aiṛbṛiḡ · i mbuarōṛeāt ḡe éian t'aimṛiṛ
tuḡ ṛiōt innte ó ḡinn ḡo ḡinn · fa hé an tuṛaṛ iaṛ nḡilinn.

¹ K. II. 264. ² IV. 24. ³ Kings, III. 3, 26. ⁴ Cf. "rompla ar cóir na conélañ po," poem by Somairle mac an ḡairi, RIA 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 28.
⁵ IV. 26. ⁶ IV. 28, or "except to the extent prescribed by C.'s words" (O'Grady, Cat.). ⁷ K. III. 256, etc. ⁸ G.G. 138.

62. There are countries in which it is matter of praise for a man—it is a good judgment—if he succeed in taking some land from the sea or flood.
63. Not benefits in which they themselves had no part were those conferred by Eibhear's race, but services for which they were pledges did they confer on the men of Eire.
64. Eoghan saved them from famine,¹ Brian from oppression and hardship. Let us see if benefits that thus profited all were conferred by your kings.
65. You would conclude that Banba with its many hosts was their fatherland.² In their reign there came not to it plagues or famine or foreigners.
66. No king of them who ruled gave in his reign over Banba a portion of it to strong or to weak. You would say the child was theirs.³
67. The race of which you make much has no boast like that to make. It is therefore the less just to revile the race of Eibhear in comparison with them.⁴
68. A province free from your northern kings was held by Eibhear's race—great was the prerogative. I do not find any liberties enjoyed by the North as against any king of Eibhear's race.
69. Against Eibhear's race you should not have boasted much of your three men ⁵—both of us know all about them—except of the sayings of Cormac.⁶
70. There came of Eibhear's race, after Niall and prudent Corc, one king of greater service to all Eire than Niall Conn and Conaire.
71. Count up slowly all the benefits of your kings down the ages. You shall not find in your kings of Eire the equal of the benefits conferred by Brian, son of Bebhionn.⁷
72. Scholars were helped by him, the Church was set again in honour, he gave to all who sought learning the cost of education and of books.
73. He gave each church to its own clergy, spite of the mariners from over sea. After the churches had been in heavy bondage he gave freedom to their territorial princes.
74. What the men of the sailing ships brought with them from every land of Western Europe, Brian when he got hold of their dwellings divided it among the Gaoidheal.
75. The steward that was over every townland Brian placed beneath the authority of its folk.⁸ The hireling billeted on every house he gave as a slave to its people.
76. After splendid Eire had been in trouble for long, he established peace in her from end to end. He was the dry weather after the deluge.

77. San fearóm nòdair ar mnaoi méir-feing · ná ar don-mac
óg-laoid ó'Éirinn
re shíom mošraíne as sac neac · do bíod a gail nó a gailleac.
78. Níor ainmnis ó'don dá deis-íliocht · dúitais doin eile i
n-oišreacé
tuš a tír féin dá sac flait · cairde comaoín a com-mait.
79. Tuš fíoinnte rochar oile · nac tugrao ríograo roime
lé tuigtear i n-gairm sac fíor · cia a treab do macaib
Mílro.
80. Níor fíor luš acé tuait a-máin · com-šar dúinne ir
daoiré a báir
as rin as úrban barr ar luš · ceall asur tuac do fíora.
81. Do daob Conaire ní ríit · acé mear nó roimíonn nó ríit
bíod go mbeirir rin ré linn · gearr fa rochar iao ó'Éirinn.
82. Ní mar é do ceangail úrban · ríotcáin Éireann toir ir tíar
níor páinís dá díbeirís ro · oiread cloinne Duinn Déara.
83. Ní hionann táirtear leo an érioc · níorb ionann fíor a dá
ríot
ní ar flaitéar úrban ríríobéar roin · trian fear Éireann
re rošail.
84. Ní iarréa bpeir do buain uínn · a lor Conaire ná a ríit
dá n-antá rin i moé ceart · acé go léigtear a gcompeart.⁵
85. Níorb fearr Cormac re ceart féin · do déanam cúire go réir
ioná úrban i gcúir córa · as leannáin luirs éanóna.
86. Do Conn ir meiré a máoréam · a comaoín ar érioc n-šaoiréat
an comaoín nac é do cúir · 'r a beir ar beagán rochar.
87. Dámaó é Conn mar nac é · do šeabao róro go teac té
ó'Éirinn fá beag rochar roin · téigti san iao go Teamair.
88. Muna páirteac na rúinib · ó'follamnáct Dé ar a dúilib
measur turá beir do Conn · creao do maróm loc nó úbann.
89. Cur móir šeac írtis fa tír · ní céim ar ionmáoiréte ar ríš
amail máorétear líbre ar Conn · 'r san éin-šleo i n-ašairé
eacéronn.
90. Mar rin šurú fearr úrban a-báin · mar šein rochar ó'Inir
fáil
nár an triúr áirne a luš · 'r a n-áiream go n-a rochar.
91. Már i rin do cairt ar fearr · ní cairt i ar a beirte teann
ionann daoiré beir san cairt · na neirte taoi do labairt.

¹ U. Lám-fada, cf. Eriu, i. 89. Ag. 5276. ² IV. 27. ³ Togail Bruidne Da Dearga, Rev. Celt. xxii., § 9, 19, 41, 46. MSS. ainc. ⁴ “Batar díbergaig tra trian fer nErend hi flaith Conaire,” Rev. Celt. Togail B. Da Dearga, xxii. § 43. ⁵ Cf. O'Curry, M. C. I., ccclxx; Tog. B. Da Dearga, Rev. Celt. xxii. § 7. A n- “their” referring to ríacáir fear-marra (cf. XVIII. 57) as well as Conaire. ⁶ IV. 28. ⁷ IV. 29, etc.

77. There was no servile service on any slender-fingered woman or on any son of a warrior of Eire. For slaves' work each one had a foreigner man or woman.
78. He assigned not to anyone of his good race another's land as an inheritance, but gave his own land to each chief. Where was there a benefit like that?
79. He introduced surnames—another benefit—which no king did before him so that in the name of each man one sees to which tribe of Mile's sons he belongs.
80. Lughaidh ¹ freed the laity alone, and the thanks for that is as closely binding on us as on you. Brian surpasses Lughaidh in that he freed churches as well as laity.
81. As for Conaire ² the only benefits of his which were acquired were fruit or good weather or peace. Though these existed in his time they were a shortlived benefit to Eire.
82. Not so did Brian establish peace East and West. Numbers great as the sons of Donn Deasa did not succeed in spoiling her. (K).³
83. Not in the same way was the land got by them (Brian and Conaire). Very different was the peace each established. It is not of Brian's reign that it is written "one-third of the men of Eire engaged in plundering." ⁴
84. You would not have tried on the score of Conaire or his seed to deny us our superiority, had you acquiesced as we do in the truth, and if you read the story of their conceptions.⁵
85. For the peaceful settling of causes by his law Cormac ⁶ was not better than Brian following the precedent of law in doing of justice.
86. It is no service to Conn to boast of his benefit ⁷ to the land of the Gaoidheal, the benefit which it was not he who conferred, and which besides was of little use.
87. If it had been Conn—as it was not—who acquired the roads to the house of Te, that was of small use to Eire. Folk used to go to Teamhair without them.
88. Unless you make Conn partner in the mysteries of God's power over His elements, what had the springing forth of lakes or rivers to do with him? (K).
89. The fighting of many battles in the land as you boast of in the case of Conn is nothing to boast of for a king, seeing that he fought no battle against foreigners.
90. In this respect Brian alone was better as a profitable son of Inis Fail than the three you mention, O Lugh, with their benefits.
91. If that be your best charter it is not one to be confident in. You might as well have no charter as those things.

92. Ní hiao féin roo-éuir na fáir • tearḡaḡ coille ní céim cáir
maróm loḡ go ruaitniró nó ² rpeab • ní ḡearna ḡuine aḡt
ḡúileam.
93. Tuigḡe ḡo éac ḡá ḡriḡ rin • an éairḡ ar fearr luanḡtear lib.
ḡo éairḡ oile naḡ riú a mear • mar naḡ riú ipe a haiḡnear.
94. Tomaróm loḡ tomaróm aibneab • fáir cḡann mbláit-ḡorḡac
mbarr-ḡeal
ḡibé ri ar a ḡriḡe a ḡrior • ná tuig ḡó aḡt a n-oirpear.
95. Máir oigḡeacḡ ḡí-pe ir ḡá riol • an teac rin Teamra na riogḡ
mó ar luac riámic a realḡ rin • ḡá éir cúḡear mac éibir.
96. Sul táimic céab ḡo ḡri céab • i nḡeaḡaiḡ luḡoine ḡ'éas
Moḡ Corḡ ḡ'fine éibir finn • ḡo ba láin-ri é ar éirinn.
97. Fearḡ pé nḡlún na ḡiarḡ ḡá riol • ḡac neac ḡíobḡ pan rirḡe
riogḡ
an ḡceirḡe go mbiorḡ pé linn • riinn mac nluḡoine ar éirinn.
98. Níor ḡairmeab ri ḡ'aoir-fear uairn • ḡan neart éiréann
tear ir ḡuarḡ
riogḡaḡ iomlán luanar Mír • cia an ḡóann tar naḡ téḡḡir.
99. Ar rḡarab riú ḡon ḡairm riogḡ • ní hé luḡoine ná a riol
táimḡ ḡ'foirneart orra ir-teaḡ • aḡt ḡrém-riogḡt Ir mic
míleab.
100. Mar rin ir follur ḡo éac • naḡ féirir go riór a riá
ḡri céab bliabḡan go riabḡe • neart ḡanba aḡ riogḡt luḡoine.
101. Iarrarḡ cairḡe a huḡt Tuacal • ionḡnaḡ ariú ar éirinn
uacurḡ
na pé féin ruair Tuacal cor • 'r ní hé a mac ruair a ionab.
102. Aitḡ Tuacal tárla ir tḡr • Sanḡ ḡoḡarḡ ir foirḡriḡ
orra ḡo ḡab Tuacal teann • aḡraiḡ pé orra a coirḡeall.
103. Níor máir beo ḡ'arḡ-éloinn éibir • aḡt don macaom caoir-
céillirḡ
'r é i n-am Tuacal ḡ'faḡail neirḡ • ó Aiteac Tuait ar
ḡíbeirḡ.
104. Ná beir uair naḡ ruair féirḡim • real ḡá aimir ar éirinn
a tor a élorḡim ruair riin • 'r ní mar oigḡe i n-aic Tuacal.
105. Mó ar laḡ an iarrarḡ ḡarḡa • maol-ráta ḡan mḡr-ḡarba
ḡan ionnta aḡt mar ḡac n-ionab • aḡt beir real ar rirḡluḡab.
106. ḡearr an real cúḡrao fa éion • aitnirḡ ḡúinn ar don ariogḡ
Cuir ḡíobḡ ḡan buair aca riḡ • aḡt foirneart aḡarḡ ḡ'aimir.

¹ fáir... cáir? Cf. Contrib. sub. cáir. fáir is unusual. ² MSS. na. ³ iv. 33.
⁴ III. 14. ⁵ IV. 36. ⁶ K. II. 174, etc. ⁷ Rennes Dind, § 51. ⁸ <uac? or "lonely" or "uacab" (K²), "strange of them." ⁹ M. 56. ¹⁰ Corḡ
ólum, cf. *New Irel. Review*, Oct., 1906. ¹¹ K. II. 258. ¹² i.e., f.
reacḡmar. ¹³ IV. 39.

92. It was not the men themselves who made the trees grow.¹ To cut them down is nothing very difficult. Not man but the Creator caused the lakes and the rivers to burst forth, conspicuously.²
93. Therefore all can see that as the best charter you can mention is not worth discussion your other is not worth considering.
94. As for the bursting of lakes and rivers and the growth of fair-fruited bright-topped trees, attribute not to the king of whom you will find these things told, any credit except what is fitting.
95. If that house of Teamhair of the kings be the inheritance of her (Tea)³ and her race, all the quicker did its possession pass afterwards to the five sons of Eibhear.⁴
96. Before one hundred of your three hundred years⁵ had passed after Iughoine's death, Mogh Corb of Eibhear Fionn's race was full-king over Eire.
97. During six generations⁶ of his race after Mogh Corb, every man of them in the kingly seat, think you that the disposition of Eire made by Iughoine held good?
98. None of us was ever styled king but swayed Eire North and South. What border did they not cross, all the Kings of Mumha Mis?⁷
99. When the title of king passed from them, not Iughoine or his seed but the brave race of Ir came in by force over them.
100. Thus it is clear to all that it cannot be truly said that for three hundred years Banba was ruled by Iughoine's race.
101. It is strange that you seek to-day your title to fierce⁸ Eire on the score of Tuathal. In his own day he met with reverse, nor was it his son that succeeded him.
102. The Aithach Tuatha were in the land, Sanbh, Eochaidh and Foirbriogh.⁹ Stout Tuathal attacked them and forces his terms on them.
103. Of Eibhear's noble race there was then alive only one gentle sensible boy,¹⁰ and he, while Tuathal was winning back his sway, was an exile from the Aithach Tuatha.¹¹
104. Do not think I deny that Feidhlim¹² spent some time ruling Eire. By his sword he won the power, not as Tuathal's heir.
105. Weaker still as a claim to title are the bare useless forts¹³ which differ not from any other spot except that they were built long ago.
106. Short was the time that some of them spent in honour—we both know it now. Your folk had no connection with them except to rule there some time.

107. Ir fearr mór i gcoimhear éad · mar bortaib oipeadair iad
puirp fleadta éibir na n-ead · Corcad bortaíre luimnead.
108. Dá mbeir ní ar bortaib áille · níor dhearmaróte Dún gCláire
Dún Iarús Cairéal ir Míin-mas · Áine Cláid ir Ceann Corad.
109. Aitceosó bpreire nacairb fíor · bíosó go dtiocfaó tar beal níos
oircear d'fíliró gá mbiaó fíor · dá mbeanaó fur an aighear.
110. Tar ceann a dtasrair-re a luí · 'r congnam léill ro ceann⁵
do cup
a shairm do ceart ní féad rib · an-flait Teampa d'fúil éibir.
111. Eadtráinn pláda ná fíor · na bflaitear fearrroae a rompla
do ceart pé linn níor léis rib · doirb an-flait díob do
dénim.
112. A bfuil ir fearad do cad · biaó cuimne a roi-ghnóm go bpad
níor ceart an-flait do shairm díob · ní léisteair orra doir-
ghnóm.
113. Rís mar fóirneart cuile as ceart · mpear a sceart mar a
neart
go briaóain d'eolcáib maite · ir fiú ar ionráó an-flait.
114. Domaró Torna na dán féin · méad a rgaáa re breirg léill
ionghaó duit-re a féana roin · mar gac féana doot féantaib
115. Tairga ar dútear d'áime ír · Cúise Ulaó na n-eang mín
ionár luadair aró úr-car · báóac nead pé fean-dútear.
116. Tuigro luét cuigre tromó · an leat éuad dán díob Torna.
a báó fiú náir dhearmaró roin · tré beir i luadair Deasáó.
117. Dá fíomtar nís reampa a-raon · na nglúimib díoráa ar gac
taob
ní fúise Torna asur luí · do breir as líall dá ceartar.
118. Curo don beagán breire féin · do gáóatái líb do taob léill
do báóar rinnirp Cuire tpeall⁹ · com-érean fiú ar lóir
éireann.
119. Do éin ó Corc ó gcorcair¹⁰ · níosraó ar ró-mó moltair
náir an tpong áirne go ceann · uair i n-oipeadair éireann.
120. Ní beag d'eiriomláir d'éirinn · dála léill Caille ir fíórlim
líall do cup ro níosraó toir · fíórlim do cup ó éommaró.¹²
121. Fuar a shuaró ar gne mónnann¹³ · d'áinn optimus Scotorum
teiró fíórlim dá léisteair lat · léis teiró Columb ar
Corrmac.

¹ Co. Limerick.² Cahir.³ n. Bruree.⁴ Knockany, Co. Limerick.⁵ Cf. "an t-aoir dána ceann i gceann" "all together." p. ón cáinte. RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 5.⁶ II. 45.⁷ K. II. 100, cf. IV. 41, 43.

Torna was of Ir's race.

⁸ i.e., 39 and 31.⁹ Cf. "i scienn tpeall," C.

mcÓáire, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 27.

¹⁰ MSS. 6, i gcorcais. K. II. 386.¹¹ f. mac Cpuomáinn, cf. A. Innisf.; CC. § 2.¹² Cf. "cáir do éuad na

comuróeact," "in his company." p. ón cáinte, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 21

¹³ Cf. mónós. mónaóán.¹⁴ K. II. 349. Reference?

107. If they be compared as seats of power, better are the strong places of the race of Eibhear of the horses, Corcach, Portlairge, Luimneach.
108. Were it a question of fair forts, one should not forget Dun gClaire,¹ Dun Iasg,² Caiseal Magh Min,³ Aine Cliach,⁴ Ceann Coradh.
109. To refute untruth, though it be on the lips of a king, beseems the poet who might know what pertains to the question.
110. Spite of your arguments, O Lugh—and Niall's help given you ⁵—you cannot in truth call Eibhear's race "usurpers of Teamhair."
111. You have not read of foreigners, plagues, or famines in their time of sway—better is their example for that! It is hard therefore to make them out usurpers.
112. Their descent all men know. Their good deeds shall be remembered ever. It was not right to call them "usurpers." No evil deed is read of them.
113. It is kings who advance as the crushing might of a torrent, kings who measure their right by their might, whom one may—as good sages attest—justly call "usurpers."
114. Torna admits in his poem how he feared Niall's anger.⁶ Strange that you deny that, like the many other things you deny.
115. The native country of Ir's race is rather Cuige Uladh of the smooth lands than high green-tangled Luachair.⁷ Everyone is fond of his own land.
116. People can understand—'tis a weighty point—that Torna forgot not his love for the North Half—of which he was—through being in Luachair.
117. If the kings preceding them both be counted up in their direct generations on each side, Torna and Lughaidh will not find Niall to have a superiority of eight (over Corc).⁸
118. As to some of this majority which you might find Niall to have, Corc's ancestors were their fellows for a time ⁹ in power over Eire.
119. From Corc of the purple ears ¹⁰ there descended princes much more highly praised than the race you proudly count as yours in the kingship of Eire.
120. Instance enough for all men (of your bias) in the case of Niall Caille and Feilim ¹¹ is that you put Niall in your list of kings and put Feilim out of it (?).¹²
121. Feilim, whose cheek was as the berries,¹³ was called "optimus scotorum." When this testimony to Feilim is being read by you read that of Columb about Cormac (?).¹⁴

122. léiḡ a ḡcomh-réim ḡan ééim tláir · léiḡ a óá mbeataíó 'r
a mbáir
pearr ḡo móir o'fíadain iao ro · ná duain ḡiolla mo 'óuóda.
123. Móir-ḡcúir óá n'óeanaí tairóbreac · 'óo beir ḡar n-áiream
airóbreac
'óo ḡeabtar uaim blaó óá fíor · ḡo nac raib cáe na
ambíor
124. Tríúr i n-éin-ré it áiream ríog · 'óronḡ na ḡcúplaib áiríne
óíob
'óeanaí nuíne ruar mar rin · ní ceiró é o'fíora n-áirim.
125. 'Óo ḡeabta ré léiḡeam uaim · i ḡcúro 'óoó 'óeig-leabraib
tuaró
beas náir léiḡte óam um 'óiro · com-flait ceatruir i
ḡcumorḡ.
126. Mar rin áiream 'óo ríograó · nac conḡnam a mbeir líommar
'óo b'píḡ ḡo n-áirimtear lib · uníir trír ar uain éin-fir.
127. Cúir oile ar follar 'óo cáe · inneoraó ní rḡeal ḡan fáct
é-iomaó áirim ríog a luḡ · 'óo teact 'óo cúir nac ionḡnaó.
128. Teamair breas i mbíoir ríḡ · ar ḡar ḡcúro-re tuaró 'óon tír
ní lammaoir act le ró neir · r'cúraó an aró-rúir oiróeir.
129. An trát nac teasmaó rí 'óínn · ná o'fíul luig'óeac ná
o'fíul ír
ir in teas rin Teamrac breas · beir óib féin ann níorb
airóear.
130. Rí Éireann 'óo ḡairm'c' lib · 'óon tí fá treire ar an tḡ
tar ceann r'earab'ra rir roin · ó beir i 'ótreire ar Teamrais.
131. ḡairm ríog Éireann 'óo ḡairm óíob · ḡan ḡabáil ḡiall ḡan
cuairó ríog
ná tuig o'Éirínn ní ra mó · fán nḡairm act pars pro toto.
132. Óá 'óearbaó rin péacá féin · mar beir ceart ḡac ríog
ḡo réil⁴
· rí úa léil maó neartmar rin · nac olig ceart 'óo ríḡ
Cairil.
133. Tuigfir ar rin máó áil uaim · nac iomlán 'óo ríograó tuaró
ní hiomlán Éire mar rin · mār curo o'Éirínn rí Cairil.
134. 'Óearbaó oile ó b'ruige a b'fíor · uḡóair annála ir oir'ear
ir ead rḡríobair orra amaé · i nḡairm na ríog rí Teamrac.
135. Móir n'óearbaó ré cúir na éeann · ḡr'ó rearb rin r'loinn-
r'óear leam
ar ḡairm ríog 'óo ḡairm 'óon 'óreim · ar 'óaoḡ re h'iríuinn
o'Éirínn.

¹ Éire óḡ inir na naem. Todd, Lect. iii. 408. L. had not mentioned him in IV. ² Between Boyne and Liffey. ³ Son of Ith. ⁴ First line of poem. K. Mey. Miscell.

122. Read, without weak bias, the comparison of their reigns, their lives and deaths. As evidence better far are these than Giolla Mo Dhubhda's poem.¹
123. It is pride, making them out to be splendid, which makes your account so boastful. You shall get from me some facts about them, so that none may be ignorant of them.
124. In your account you give as successive kings three reigning together, and also sets of two. It is no trouble for the computer to make up the number thus !
125. I will give you to read in your good Northern books—I was near being silent about it—even four kings reigning together.
126. Such is the counting of your kings that their numerousness avails you not, seeing that you count (as successive) three kings for the period of one.
127. I shall give another reason clear to all, namely that the excess in your numbers is due to a not unnatural cause.
128. Teamhair of the Breagha ² where dwelt kings is in your North land. We never ventured, except when we had very great power, to rule that famous stronghold. (K).
129. When there happened to be no king of our stock, or of Lughaidh's,³ or of Ir's, in the place of Teamhair it was no out of the way thing that some of you should be there !
130. You styled anyone who ruled in that palace " King of Eire," even though he had opposition, simply because he ruled in Teamhair.
131. In the title " King of Eire," if there be no taking of hostages or kingly circuit, understand by " Eire " a part for the whole.
132. As proof of that, notice how the " charter of all kings ⁴ clearly " states that if a king be ruling of the Í Neill, he can claim no rights from Caiseal's king. (K).
133. It shall be seen from my words—if you choose to see it—that your Northern line of kings is not a line of full-kings. The whole of Eire is not meant, seeing the King of Caiseal is part of Eire.
134. Another proof, whence you may learn about them, is that what authors, annals and history write, in naming the kings, is " King of Teamhair."
135. Many strong arguments shall be stated by me, though it may displease you, to show that " king " is applied by you to the line on the strength of only a part of Eire.

136. Ní luḡaroe áiríne ar Conn · tríocá bliathán ar an bponn
 dá tseman na mbliathán náir laim · buain don poinn do buí
 as Eoḡán.
137. Cormac ceatracá bliathán · áiríne ar fóro Éireann iac-ḡlan
 ní luḡaroe áiríne roin · san umla aise ó fíacáir.
138. Máir as triall ríge Mumíneac · mar veir rein-leabhar
 cumíneac
 do tuit Cairbre i scat ḡabha · níorb é an rí san fíreapbha.
139. Rí o'aró-flataib fóla Cumn · flann oirdearic mac Maoil-
 Seacáluinn
 féac re mac lonáin náir laim · imbeirt cluice ar Maḡ Adair.
140. Rir na ríogáib uair do b'feairr · ó'ócí ar mbeir-ne teann re
 teann
 na ríḡ fa táirpe ionáir roin · ná ro-máoir oirne a luḡaró.
141. Dá o'ciomnaó neac ní nac leir · dá éloinn créao a b'ríḡ
 nó a b'reib
 dá o'ceagmáó mar earla roin · realb asur ceart na n-asaró.
142. Tugair fíreagra ar é-áiream ríog · ní bíú as leannmáin air do
 ríor
 leir do éac lé o'tuigtear roin · iomtúr do ríog a luḡaró.
143. Féac nac o'érdeanac dúinn féin · i neart Danba ná o'fuir
 léill
 an trealb nac tugamar o'dóib · o'iarrair oirra fa éasóir.
144. Ríḡ ba neapmáir na b'rian · nochar geineac riam ó mall
 ar ciomna léill dá mbeir cion · níor le b'rian flaitear
 ḡaoróal.
145. Do ḡab Donncaó o'eas-mac b'rian · b'ráigoe re humla na
 óiaró
 Láigean Míoe ir Muíge b'neas · tar ciomna léill do
 punneao.
146. Do éair rin dá bliatháin o'eas · tar ciomna a noeaca uair
 o'eas
 mac míc b'rian Toirdealbac teann · i ríge or fearraib
 Éireann.
147. Tug Muircearac triac Mumíneac · cloca Oiríḡ ḡo
 lumíneac
 as b'ar o'ciomna níor ḡab ceao · buan a ríge ré fíceao.
148. An Éirne aicniró o'uit-re · áit éoinne Taróḡ Caoluirge
 ciomna léill nochar forao · an lá tug Taróḡ tuarparóal.
149. Aoeirum-re rib-re a-rír · bíor ḡo ḡcuirfir opair rḡir
 ḡo raib ní ra mó ná leac · o'Éirinn as Eoḡán Taróleac.

¹ Not in IV. ² F. Muilleathan, K. II. 320. ³ Cf. infr. 182. ⁴ K. II. 354.
⁵ Not in A.U., Chr. Scot., etc. The story is given in the so-called "Book
 of Munster" (T.C.D., 1281; RIA. 23 E. 26). Flann in Tara boasted that he

136. You assign ¹ to Conn thirty years over the land, though for two-thirds of them he dared not meddle with Eoghan's share.
137. You put Cormac as reigning forty years on the fair soiled land of Eire, though he got no submission from Fiachaidh. ²
138. If it was when seeking the kingship of the men of Mumha—as the old recording book ³ says—that Cairbre fell at Gabhar ⁴ he was no “king unchallenged.”
139. See how great Flann, son of Maoilsheachluinn, a prince of Conn's race dared not on Magh Adhair ⁵ play the game of chess with Lonan's son.
140. As you see that we can match your best kings, do not boast over-much against us of your lesser ones.
141. Were one to bequeath a thing, not one's own, to one's children, what would be its use or profit if, as is the case of your kings, possession and right were against them (the children).
142. I have answered your account of the kings. I shall not pursue this matter for ever. Everyone, who understands what I have said, sees clearly the truth as to your kings.
143. Is it not—just think of it—too late now for our race, or for Niall's race, to claim—unjustly too—power over Banba, which we did not give them in their day.
144. Never were born of Niall's race kings stronger than Brian. Had there been any regard for Niall's testament, ⁶ Brian would never have ruled the Gaedhil.
145. Donnchadh, Brian's goodly son, took, ⁷ as his father before him, in token of submission the hostages of the Laighin, of Meath, of Magh Breagh. That was against Niall's testament.
146. Stout Toirdhealbach, ⁸ son of Brian's son, spent twelve years ruling Eire, in spite of the testament of your departed kings.
147. Muirheartach, lord of the men of Mumha, brought the stones of Oileach to Luimneach, ⁹ asking no leave of your “testament.” Long was his reign, the length of twenty years. ¹⁰
148. You know of the Eirne, Tadhg Caoluisge's meeting place. Niall's testament was not observed the day that Tadhg gave his stipend. ¹¹
149. I repeat it again—though it may fatigue you—that more than half of Eire was in possession of splendid Eoghan.

could play chess in every cantred in Eire. Flann McLonain dared him to do so on Magh Adhair. The king marches thither, and is about to play with Flann McLonain when the Dal gCais attack the royal army and force it to retreat. ⁶ IV. 47-8. ⁷ A.U. 1026. ⁸ K. III. 294. ⁹ 4 M. 1101.

¹⁰ K. III. 297. ¹¹ *i.e.*, to Brian O'Neill, cf. VII. 255, where the northern version is given. 4 M. 1258; A.U. 1258.

150. Cread nár áirímhír tríochar céad · ful do cúrtas in leir-re
bréas
mar táro rítríobda ó pé na sean · munar lór áiríamh cúlgead.
151. Meartar na hoct ttríochar déas · atá i mbeo go lion réad
sar go bfuil a oiread roin · dar ttaoib uaid do Connaetair.
152. An cúlgead rin cloinne hír · cúipe mar tarbóre i nbar tóir
a ttaoib do ó bpeit sll · ní don élar aet dá foirinn.
153. Maic fuairéad filrō Vanba · arb féoir leo do labra
pe cloinn ír reat gac cinead · níor cúmaoin nár cúitigead.
154. San cúlgead tuaró ir ead tís · cúis tríochar déas ar fíero
áirímhéar a oiread roin · ann gac cúlgead don Munain.
155. Ar cúro Eogain mōir na réad · do péir áirímh tríochar céad
beas nac fuil do bair tar leat · mār bpeir do cúlgead
Lairnead.
156. Ranna do fíomad bar bpeir · fada ón adbar san busin pur
áiríamh do mīn-leiré Cúinn · do déanamh mar leir éomēruim.
157. Na panna plāde roime · panna iad do péir toile
níor fairsmead díob roimad pām · mar ainm ceirt-leat nó
ceirt-ēman.
158. Raimn fíl leimead díongna¹⁰ a pād · trí deirneabair líon a plōg
san for ó ionad o'ionad · san ainmum pe háitreadad.
159. An ríocht do b'fearr iad leimead · do paimn éirinn fa
deiréad
ór fárrad naoi rís don tpuing · ar a paimn ir ead fanaim.
160. Raimn toile do rōnrad rin · dá mac Eibric mīc Éibir
paimn éom-ērom ní harréa o'fíor · roir fōirear ir fínnrear.
161. Ór é Moš luadad fuair comā · ní leat fíaoic aet leat
Mošā
ainm na leiré ar mō ná leat · bí as tréan-Eogain Tarleat.
162. Mar do canair tréan Eogain · do fíaoic tús leir na deorad
o'fíonnmāll o'fíaca Caran can · gac treire dār gāb
Tuathal.
163. Ir pollur nac deapnar trom · réad mar deire péin ar Conn
a amur ar maroin mōic · ir Eogain ar a leabaró.

¹ C. included Thomond, etc., till middle of 3rd cent. ² IV. 51. ³ i.e., not as in our taking of Thomond. ⁴ Cf. XXVIII. ⁵ K. I. 119. ⁶ K. I. 122. ⁷ i.e., Munster (70 cantreds) + Leinster (31) are almost one and a half times as big as Connaught (30) + Ulster (35) + Meath (18). ⁸ IV. 52. ⁹ K. I. 106. ¹⁰ Cf. "díongna nac deapna mé túr mo móla pām roime," Δ. Ó Dálaid, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 14; "m o. a nool tar cuimne," T. McOáire, RIA. 23 A. 30, p. 87, v. 3; ní fear ttaoib ní díongna (-na ?) mō," P. ón Cainte, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 2; Laws Gloss.; Contrib. sub. "díongnatach." ¹¹ K. I. 174. ¹² Cearma and Sobhairce. ¹³ K. gives 23, XVIII. gives 25. The set of nine Irian kings ruling almost uninterruptedly are here referred to. ¹⁴ Niall said (II. 24) that Fraoch (son of King of Spain) was the cause of Mogh's getting Leath Mogha. O'Clery adopted this version, IV. 56. Cf. B. of Magh Léana. ¹⁵ They helped Tuathal. K. II. 243. ¹⁶ IV. 58.

150. If the counting of the provinces does not satisfy you, why did you not—before accusing me of falsehood—count the cantreds, as they are written since the days of the ancients?
151. Let the eighteen cantreds in many-treasured Midhe be considered. On our side there is almost that amount of the Connachta¹ taken from you.
152. As for Clann Ir's province, which you claim as a proud possession in your part of the land,² the pledges given by it (to C. Neill) were not part of its land, but only some of its people (as hostages).³
153. Banba's poets did well to invent all they could in praise of Ir's race beyond others. It was a favour not left unrequited.⁴
154. In the Northern Province there are thirty-five cantreds.⁵ That much is counted in each of the Provinces of Mumha.⁶
155. In the share of great Eoghan of the treasures there is, reckoning by cantreds, almost a superiority of half (over the rest of Eire),⁷ if one adds the Province of the Laighin to it.
156. The divisions (you quote) to prove your theory are far from the mark, and have nothing to do with the point, namely to make out Conn's small half to be an equal half.
157. The divisions you mention before that one (between Conn and Mogh)⁸ were arbitrary ones. No one before you ever called them "equal half" or "equal third."
158. Strange¹⁰ of you to mention the division made by Neimheadh's race.⁹ Thirty was the number of their host.¹¹ They ceased not going from place to place, and waited not to settle on the land.
159. The division on which I am dwelling (as being an arbitrary one) is that made by the strongest race¹² which after Neimheadh finally divided Eire, and whence sprang nine kings.¹³
160. The two sons¹² of Eibrioc, Eibhear's son, made an arbitrary division. No one could expect a division between younger and elder to be equal.
161. As it was Mogh who exacted his terms, "Mogh's Half," not "Fraoch's Half"¹⁴ is the name of the Half—really more than a half—which was held by Eoghan.
162. As you ascribed Eoghan's power to Fraoch who welcomed him when exiled, you had better ascribe to Fionnmhall or to Fiacha Casan¹⁵ the dominion got by Tuathal? (K).
163. Clearly I did not slander Conn. See, you yourself mention¹⁵ his morning-attack on Eoghan while in bed.

164. Dá gcuirḃaoi rósna caṡa · uair neampa i gceann na flata
pollur lé nḃearna ar a ruan · naḃ biaḃ a éas ré ionlusaḃ.
165. Ní hionḡna anuú go dána · réana a ḡníom ar luḡ láḡa
ḃo réantaḃo air féin ran éat · tuitim rir tré ríḡ Ultaḃ.
166. Ní ar laigníḃ aḃt ar mḡmain · ḃo iarr Corḡmac a cḡnail
ḃo bḡis ḡur le luḡ ḃo tuit · Arṡ doin-ḡear aḃair Corḡmaic.
167. munab é luḡ ḃo mairḃ Arṡ · créatḃ fár iarr Corḡmac a mḡc
re huḃt caṡa Crionna ar luḡ · ceann ríḡs i n-íoc a aḃar.
168. Níor cḡir luḡ fá tréan i ḃṡḡear · ir rḡnn ḡaoi Corḡmaic
ré énear
'r níor cḡir Corḡmac go ḡcḡinne · báṡ Arṡ i leir líḡḡairne.
169. Mar rin naḃ féroir a cḡir · marḃaḃ Arṡ doin-rir tar luḡ
muna bḡuil teirḃ ar ḡearr lat · ioná luḡ aḡur Corḡmac.
170. Na heaḃṡrainn éḡṡṡṡo leo a-nall · an dá luḡaḃ náṡ tréiré
bann
ḃ'oirḡamḡin ḃon ḃír tar mḡir · éḡḡḡṡṡar ar a nḃúḃaḡs.
171. Saḃ an bḡeaḃ clú ḡníom a rḡuaḡs · ḃo buain ḃon flait
ḃeirḡar buaḃ
'r naḃ le a don-lám féin ḃo ḡab · Alexanḃér an ḃóman.
172. Dámḃ ar don-lám ḃo biaḃ · marḃm éaṡa nó ḡabáil ḡiall
ní raibe i Mucromhe ann roin · lám ba mead ḃo lám luḡaḃ.
173. Ní rḡríḃḃaro bḡar n-eolais féin · ḃo ríol eirḡamḃoin go léir
teirḃ luḡḡḃeaḃ mar labḡair rin · a rḡnail ḃo ḡlún ḡairḡir.
174. Mo náire a luḡaḃ a luad · mar éḡs tú tar Caoille an
ḃṡuaḃ
éḡin ḃam dá élaḃclóḃ roin · ríḡinne an rḡéil ḃo leamḡin.
175. Corḡmac féin éḡs leir a tuarḃ · ḃṡaḃiré ḃ'iarḡarḃ beirḃe
buaḃ
ḃár tráḡḡṡṡo uirḡe Munan · ceaḃra ir ḃaḃine ar ḃṡṡṡ-
muḡaḃ.
176. Dealbḃair mar ḡearam dá rḡairḡin · caḃirḃ rir naḃ ḡaḃḃaoir
airḡin
már mairḡaḃ an iarḡarḃ neirḃ · ḃoḃ ríḡ onḃṡaḃ oirḃeirḃ.
177. Cuirḃ rḡuaḡs Munnead a-muḡs · ríor ar an ḡean-ḃṡaḃi
Moḡ Ruit
ḃá bḡuair ḃ'ḡearann ḡearaḃ ḃuit · ar éorḡ ḃṡaḃḃeaḃt
ḃṡuaḃ Corḡmaic.

¹ IV. 59. ² K. II. 290. ³ K. II. 318. ⁴ K. II. 288. ⁵ IV. 61, 62.
⁶ L. Mac Con and L. Lamha got Britons to help them, K. II. 281. ⁷ Cf. "an
maṡṡeḃón a mead roin"; "mead ḃ'earḡar na huairḡe-re," C. Mcḃáire, RIA.
23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 8, l. "ḃonnḃaḃ ḡear naḃ raḃaḃ a mead," Poem "éḡs ḃom
airḡe," T.C.D. 1281, v. 41. ⁸ L. Lamha. ⁹ Cf. XXV. 5, n. ¹⁰ IV. 64.
¹¹ K. II. 320. ¹² M. C. II. 214. ¹³ i.e., Caoille an Druadh, IV. 65, 3.
¹⁴ For gen. sg. in -aḃt, cf. "meirḃe ar méro ar ḃṡṡṡṡ-ḡuaṡaḃt," C. Mcḃáire;
RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 2.

164. Had a battle-summons been sent an hour previously to the prince, it is clear, from what that prince did when he was awake, that his death would not have to be recorded.
165. It is not strange that his exploits should be denied to Lughaidh Lagha.¹ It was even denied to his face in the battle that the three kings of the Ulaidh fell at his hands.²
166. Not from the Laighin but from Mumha did Cormac demand the cumhal³ on account of Art Aoinehear, Cormac's father, being killed by Lugh.
167. If it was not Lugh who slew Art why did Art's son, Cormac, ask from Lugh before the battle of Crionna a king's head as blood-price for his father?⁴
168. Neither brave Lugh, even when Cormac's spear was at his skin, nor Cormac ever attributed, as far as we remember, Art's death to Lioghairne.⁵
169. Thus, you cannot attribute Art's death to anyone but Lugh,—unless you have some better testimony than Lugh and Cormac!
170. As for the foreigners, whom the two Lughaidhs⁶ of stout deeds brought over with them, it was for the service of the pair that they came from their land over-seas.
171. It is a perverse thought to deny to the victorious prince the glory of his host's deeds, seeing that it was not with his own single hand that even Alexander conquered the world.
172. If the winning of a fight, or the taking of hostages, had depended on the hand of any one man, there was not at Mucroime any hand as heavy⁷ as Lughaidh's.⁸
173. Even your own learned men, when they give testimony to Lughaidh, do not mention in all the race of Eireamhon any hero⁹ like him.
174. I am ashamed to repeat what you say of Caoille an Druadh.¹⁰ I must to refute what you say, detail the truth of the story.
175. It was Cormac himself who brought from the North,¹¹ to conquer by means of them, druids at whose word Mumha's waters ebbed away, and cattle and men were parched.
176. As a resource for their fight, the druids form fire-balls,¹² against which arms availed not,—if that be, for your honourable noble king, a creditable means of getting power!
177. The host of Mumha then send for the old wizard Moghruth. You know of the land¹³ he got for checking the wizardry¹⁴ of Cormac's druids.

178. Coirḡir Moḡ Ruic ceirto na nṑruaḡ · 'r ar a fōn to ḡlac a
luac¹
fiaḡa Munineac to ḡlaoi a neart · nīor ḡlaoi Moḡ Ruic
aḡt ṑraoṑeacṑt.
179. Ann nḡac ionaḡ ḡear ip ḡuair · i bfuil rḡrīoḡṑa rṑair an
ṑrluairḡ
ar a n-abraim an-oire · tṑḡbaim i mar fiaḡnaire.
180. ḡion ḡur maoṑṑear bār ḡairbire · lem faḡṑoib aḡail faḡṑe
to ḡear rann ṑā ḡearḡaḡ rōin · ṑ·uḡṑar aoṑṑa eaḡnaḡ.
181. An rann-ra a ṑear im ṑeaḡaḡ · muna bfuil leat to
meaḡair
to ḡeaḡṑa ré léiḡeaim leam · i ḡcuro ṑ'arṑ-leaḡraib éireann.
182. Aḡ ṑruall rīḡe Munineac mar · ba foirneart an flaitreamnar
le Moḡ Corb mac Cair ḡeaḡar · to ḡear Cairbire līreaḡair.
183. To ḡeallair ḡan maoṑṑeaim éaḡt · an ṑā ṑronḡ rin ḡo lion
ḡeṑeacṑt
ḡoin Moḡa Corb ḡrīce Mīr · ip ṑar ḡeallaḡ to maoṑṑir.
184. Coḡneollaḡ mo ḡeallaḡ féin · ḡan maoṑṑeaim éaḡt ar to
ṑréin
ṑ naḡ é a ṑṑeanaim to b'ṑearr · mar onṑir to ḡrīc éireann.
185. ṑearr mar molaḡ ṑoib a-raon · ná maoṑṑeaim éaḡt ar ḡac
ṑaoḡ
ḡac rī ar a bfuḡḡṑear a bṑior · rīr-bṑeaḡa rōi-ḡnīoim ruaimnear.
186. Cumnīḡ féin ar léiḡeacṑt lat · an bṑeaṑur cia rīl uarṑo
ṑabair rīul ḡart ar ḡac ṑaoib · aīnic naḡ ḡlaoi to ḡaḡaoir.
187. ṑéanta ṑuit ṑāla nṑrṑe · ic aḡaḡ ṑ ṑāro ṑrṑrṑe
ṑéaḡa féin an mōr ré mear · cōir ic aḡaḡ aoir oṑṑear.
188. Ar ḡrāḡ ṑruinḡe ḡear nō ḡuair · ar a nṑiom-buair nō
ar a mbuair
nār ṑāḡṑa rinne ṑār n-éir · ní baḡ ain-bṑior ré fairnéir.

ÉISO.

¹ MSS. ṑr ar a fōn ḡlac a luac. ² K. II. 354. In the "Book of Munster" (supra 138) a stanza is quoted apparently from Aoḡ Albanac, "aḡ ṑruall rīḡe Munineac mar · foirṑeān a flaitreamnar : le moḡ Corb

178. Moghruith baffled the druids' arts, and got the reward for that.¹
 Fiacha of Mumha broke the strength of the Northerns.
 Moghruith only destroyed their wizardry.
179. I take the story of that hosting where it is found written every-
 where North or South to witness to the truth of what I say.
180. Though I did not use Cairbre's death as one of my shafts,
 I will give you a verse to prove it from an ancient learned
 author.
181. You as well as I shall be able to read in some of the great books
 of Eire, if you do not know it by heart, this verse which I shall
 now quote.
182. "When attempting the dominion of the fair men of Mumha—
 an act of oppression was this sovereign deed—by Mogh Corb
 son of Cas the reaver was Cairbre Lifeachair slain."²
183. You promised³ not to mention the crimes of the two many-
 plundering races, yet against your promise⁴ you boasted
 of the slaying of Mogh Corb of Criche Mis.⁵
184. I will keep my promise not to mention the crimes of your
 stock, since the commission of them was not what did most
 honour to the land of Eire.
185. Better praise for them both than the telling of their crimes is the
 telling of the true judgments the noble conduct and peaceful-
 ness of every king, of whom are told these things.
186. Reflect on what you have read. Do you realise who is above
 you? Examine the subject in every way. Take care lest your
 poet's chair be partial.
187. You must act as Neidhe,⁶ for you have against you three things
 —you can see whether they are important or not—right,
 antiquity, learning.
188. May we never, through love of either North or South,
 influenced by their defects or their excellences, leave after
 us anything untruthful to tell!

mac Cairbre Éolach : do cair Cairbre Lifeachair."

³ IV. 4

⁴ IV. 66

⁵ C A. 191; Eriu III. 139, 4.

⁶ N. yielded up poet's chair to superior claims
 of Ferchertne, MC. ii. 315; Rev. Celt. xxvi. MSS. Mat. 383.

RO ĊUALA AR ĊAṢRAIS A ĊAIŌṢ. LUṢAIŌ Ó CLÉIRIṢ, cci.

1. Ro ċuala ar ċaṣrair a ċarōṣ • a clóirōin ní cúir iomairṣ
aēt an b'réas do cúir ar ṣcúl • 'r ṣan páirte araire d'iomprú.
2. Do béar-ra aipe d'uir-re • tar éann Torna ran tpoir-re
le pírinne b'urtear caē • ran ṣliarō maō calma an ciontaē.
3. Ó naē fuilim teann pe teann • anfas 1 b'por m'roe leam
ní fearr d'aoib mo d'ul ba dear • im d'an ir meara m'aighear.
4. Ní éirctiob d'uit d'éanam tpuim • tar maṣail ar élannaib
Cúinn
'r ṣaē a d'earnair oim baō d'éin • aṭaim oipamaē ainn-réin
5. Ná bioō fearṣ ar leit Moṣa • pá nṣoin 1 n-aṣarō ṣona
dā raib bioō a n-aicēdear oir • t're ē'fala ² d'óib do d'uraēt.
6. Ní bia pe forbētar nōāna • 'r a lán aṣam ré máda
bar n-eang-ra dā leantap leam • ní bia m'fuiṣle ṣo hait-
ṣearr.
7. Ṣibé fréam ó b'uil do cúir • do beana 1 ṣo b'por d'úinn
ceannar éireamhōin nárb fann • ar éibearmar do dearb'ram.
8. Féac leat leab'ar na huir-re • ir ann dearb'ócāo m'fuiṣle
ir an am'rar 1 d'éirō rib • ar b'reit Am'irṣin ṣlúin-ṣil.
9. B'reit Am'irṣin ón uair rin • aṭa 1 n'éirunn ṣā n-uairib
do béar porṣ dā dearb'ar d'eit • ṣo b'uil na rein-b'reit
oirōreic.
10. Do ṣéaba an porṣ-ra maō ail • 1 n'oligēib p'ioṣ Inre fáil
eagna le heaṣlair a-oir • aṣur feabēa la flaitib.
11. Maō é an t-ōṣ bur forbēte ṣnóim • toṣtar é ran purō
p'ioṣ
ṣibé ṣā mbí an eagna lair • ir é toṣtar ran eaṣlair.
12. Ná habair ṣurab rinnir • do toṣtaoi 1 n'éirunn innriṣ
minic do éuarō óṣ tar rean • 1 n'oligēad maicne Milead.
13. Mór d'ar reanēar ar ṣaē taoib • naē faṣtar 1 porṣ ná 1 laorō
ar laorō féin ní faṣtar dāē • ṣan leab'ar ṣlan dā cum'ad.
14. A noubair pe héibear fionn • mār b'réas mar a-deire muom
do fáoil rinne ṣā máda • ṣur' b'por leab'ar ṣabāla.
15. Don leab'ar rin c'p'oirō cāē • do b'réasnuig tú ṣibé fáē
1 n-ionṣnaō ní curēa d'úinn • curēar raōib-éiall ra
rṣp'ortúir.

¹ V. 140.
⁴ V. 12.

² Cf. ṣan fala. 4 M. 1493.

³ MSS. forbar, cf. XX. 4.
⁶ V. 26.

[Answer to V.]

1. I have listened to your argument, Tadhg. The hearing of it does not urge me to quarrel, but to refute your falsehood without perverting the other side (yours).
2. On behalf of Torna in the dispute I will face you. By truth is the battle won, even if the erring party be brave in strife.
3. Since I am not your match (?) ¹ I will remain here. I am sorry to do so. But it would not be good for you if I went South, for my fighting power is not so good in poetry (as in arms).
4. I will not listen to your harsh unfair words against Conn's race. As regards your conduct to me, I still maintain my respectful attitude towards you.
5. Let not Leath Mogha be angry at being wounded in return for her blows. If she be, let her reproach fall on you for arousing their old enmity.²
6. I shall not aim at the perfection ³ of poetic rule as I have very much to say. If I follow your tracks my arguments will not be short.
7. I have cut away, I know, whatever be the source of your case, for I have shown the supremacy of strong Eireamhon over Eibhear.
8. Look at the Book of the Dun Cow. In it I will prove my judgment, and show the mistake you make as to the judgment of white-kneed Aimhirgin.⁴
9. I will give you a *ros*g to show that an established famous judgment is the judgment of Aimhirgin, which is observed in Eire since then by her nobles.
10. You shall find if you wish this *ros*g in the book of the Laws of Inis Fail. "Knowledge," it says, "for the church, and excellence of character for princes."⁵
11. If it be the younger who is perfect in deeds he is chosen for the throne, the man who has learning is chosen for the church.
12. Say not that elders were always chosen in insular Eire.⁶ Often did the younger take precedence of the elder in the law of Mile's race.
13. Much of our ancient history everywhere is not contained in *ros*g or poem, and even a poem is not convincing unless it has an exact book to support it.
14. If my words about Eibhear Fionn be false, as you tell me, I thought that at least the Book of Invasion was truthful when saying those words.
15. Others believe that book, which you for some reason reject. That however is not strange, for foolish senses are read even into Scripture.

16. Cperorò tú do na leabhaib . maò ní òaitear léo meannmain
már faible ip milip a mblar . maò re píol nÉibip beanar.
17. Níor rḡpíobad éin-leabhar muam . ip an domhan éoir ná éiar
ḡiò é an rḡpíorḡtúir do-rḡḡar¹ . fa mian fir na hantola.
18. ḡibé fuair ceannar ran Spáin . tap Éibear ḡpíonn pé
ḡteacét oáib
ná cuir i n-ionḡnád i ḡfur . a beit ór cás i ḡceannur.
19. An tIbernia a-òeipe . o'faicrin i ḡteangḡaib eile
ran ḡcár rin coróce ná cpero . i ḡteangḡaib nac í an Scoitic.
20. San Scoitic má fuair éin-fear . ḡairm Iibernia ó Éibear
fearr an fínné³ ná a ḡfuil lat . don oá bÉarla reacḡmoḡat.
21. Ip uirre ar mó atá o'fíacáib . comhéat reanḡair fíunn
fíacáro
as rin fát ar a nleasair . mo céatparò do cperoeamain.
22. Do léigir féin fíad fúinrò . do ḡairm don Éirunn fúilḡ⁵
cpeat an fát a nouḡarò pia . már bréas tionntúo Iibernia.
23. Munab as fuinead ḡréine . atá an tír oán hainm Éipe
ná cpero ouain reanḡair ar rean . Canam Dunadur na
nḡaorḡeal.
24. Ní ran airò éoir Éirḡear ḡrian . ó nac luḡeann ran airò éiar
fuinead ḡréine ó nac áil . ní cóir teacét tap a túrḡbáil.
25. Mar tá a fíor as ḡac éin-fear . Iibernia nac ó Éibear
ḡár beas dúinn oá ḡearḡad ort . an rruḡ Iiber a-ouḡarḡ.
26. Míroḡ an reanḡair a oíamra . 'r nac fuair pé acét real
bliaḡna
don leit ar luḡa o'lat bpeas . ḡairm Iibernia ó Éibear.
27. Leat Éibip már fíor ouro-re . ip í ar fearr don oá éuro-re
oámad fíor do b'fallra an bpeat . ná ḡearḡ ar acét ḡo
hipeac.
28. Do oúḡ Éipeamón Teamra . tap Éibear ḡo méat meanna
an leat ar fearr o'lnir bpeas . oá ḡcperoe do cāt luḡeann.
29. Níor luḡa do mil do mear . an taob éuarò-re ná an taob éar
re linn ranna an oá éionól . Éibear fíonn ip Éipeamón.
30. Fearḡ an naomh nemnḡ ní bréas . ruḡ ar mbeacá i loḡ
bÉirpéat
an barr meala maorḡear lú . ní faibe i n-aimpíir Éibip.

¹ MSS oá p. cf. Stories fr. Táin (K). ² V. 37. ³ Cf. "nó ní ar fáite dom
fínné," C. ós ó hūginn, R.I.A. 23 D. 14, p. 5, v. 16; "ḡearḡear air o'íul ip
o'fínné," Som. mac an ḡairr, R.I.A. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 67. ⁴ IV. 14, 17.
⁵ Cf. tiocparò bró fúileac arim-muad," C. McÓáipe, R.I.A. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 20;
"bean oall an ós-náir fúileac . as tóḡbáil clann ḡcomorḡeac," E. Mcḡairḡ,
R.I.A. 23 M. 24, p. 27, v. 4. ⁶ By maolmúipe Oéna, given in Todd's
Nennius, p. 220. ⁷ IV. 16. ⁸ K. II. 104. ⁹ V. 27, 28. ¹⁰ n. Geashill. Cf.
Cath Tailten in LL. ¹¹ V. 33. ¹² Reference? In Laws. iv. 196 "ecmocht"
is glossed "in locha .i. locha bel set." Colm Cille is called "an naomh
nemneac" in poem of Tóḡs McÓáipe, R.I.A. 23 D. 5, p. 276, v. 23.

16. You believe the books if there be something in them that pleases your feelings. Even if they be fables, sweet is their taste if they refer to Eibhear's race.
17. No book was ever written in the world, East or West—even the Scriptures you pull to pieces¹—to suit the whim of the perverse-minded man.
18. Think it not strange that the man who held sway in Spain over Eibhear, before they came here, should rule over all here.
19. As regards "Hibernia," which you say is to be found in other tongues,² in such cases never trust any tongue but the Scotie.
20. If anyone ever derived in Scotie "Eibhear" from "Hibernia" it would be better evidence³ than what you know of the seventy-two languages.
21. It is therefore the more its (the S. language) duty to preserve the tradition of Fiacha's Land (K). That is why it is right to believe my meaning of the word.⁴
22. You have read the phrase "land of the sunset" applied to warlike Eire.⁵ Why was that said of her if my translation of Hibernia be wrong?
23. If it is not at the sunset that lies the land called Eire, believe not the historical poem of the ancients "Let us sing the origin of the Gaoidhil."⁶
24. As, according to you, the sun does not set in the West, it does not rise in the East. As then you don't like "setting of sun" you should not speak of its rising either.
25. As everyone knows that "Hibernia" does not come from "Eibhear" I think that the river Hiber, which I mentioned,⁷ is proof enough of it for you.
26. Your idea that Hibernia is named after Eibhear is the worse for its being unintelligible, seeing that he only had a year's rule over the lesser half of the Land of the Breagha.⁸
27. According to you Eibhear's Half is the better of the two.⁹ If so, Aimhirgin's judgment would have been false. Be cautious in arguing from that (assumption of yours).
28. Eireamhon of Teamhair, and not great-hearted Eibhear, had the right to the better half of the Isle of the Breagha, if you believe the Battle of Laighen.¹⁰
29. Not inferior in honey and fruit¹¹ was the North to the South on the day of the sharing between the two hosts, Eibhear and Eireamhon.
30. It was the anger of the angry saint—it is no lie—that produced our bees at Loch Belsead.¹² The plenty of honey, which you boast of, existed not in Eibhear's day.

31. Nā bī pēto ēatpacaib ōuinne · nī fuil ionnta aēt oil i n-ūir²
do cūinne ar šabāltar nšall · ročar o'ēibear nī ōēanann.
32. Mā tā lūb enuapac cūinra · do tsoib ročair bar lūb-šort
nī cōir teacēt tar cōill mar rin · nāc maibe i n-aimpīr
ēibīr.
33. Do cēil tū mbeapa an ēirš · do buī ar cūto ēireamōin fēil
pašam a n-aētšin⁴ ašuib · pompa i bīrur dā bīuapaoair.
34. Sein-bīuātair leam na n-ašarō · ōn aīro tūarō tīs an cābair
na hušōair do šēanāō tīrom · ar an aīro tūarō dā labīram.
35. Cūto dom ōearbāō dā cōrnam · do šēabēta i šcat Ceall
Ornāō
bail nar tūit le mac Earca · nī Cairil 'r a cūtoeacēta.
36. Mār i leat ēibīr do bīearr · cīeāt tīs o'ēireamōn šan
fēall
nāc i do fēalbuiš pa ōeorō · iar n-aē-roinn ēireann dā
ainōeoin.
37. Do paō cōiſeāō do māc Īr · iar marbāō ēibīr fān tīr
i n-ainm dā cūiſeāō do bīr · an ūlūma do cōloinn ēibīr.
38. o'ēibear fionn nī ōearna tīr · bar nšreapacēt oīrnn šo
rliōēt Īr
rinn ō cēile nī cūirpe · ōaoib-re o'pašāil fuaruišē.
39. Šac paīnn dā bīuapīreao rliōēt Īr · dār oīoil fēin do
beapao dōinn
nī haūlarō rin tārta an leat · do bī uaiō-re aš rliōēt
lūiſōeac.
40. Rīſe ūlūmān šac pe bīeacēt · do buī aš ōāīrpe tīre neapc
šur šlac ōilōill ōlūm tīar · lūša mar ōalta ō ūlūmāō.
41. ūlū mō nā an leat eile ōī · eapōaiō-re īr ēarna do bī
cīeāt i an roinn i maibe · paīpaīš oīōt cāt Mucromē.
42. An leat do bī aš ēibear fionn · mār leat cōmērom nī lēir ūom
ar do lēit-ršēal mā tā ōat · nī fēāt ar nōūcāiš o'pōlac.¹³
43. Roīnn cōloinne ōeala mīc lōiſ · mār īnnte cūirēī bar nōōiſ
nīōrō fīū¹⁶ a n-eolur ar an bīonn · roinn na šcūiſeāō i
šcōmērom.

¹ V. 105. ² For "oil(e) i n-ūir," cf. 3 Sh. also "cionnur rin īr šoirpe ar nšaoil · šoin an tsoib na hoile i n-ūir," & ō ōālaīš, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 279, v. 5; "orſeolāō a ēporōe na ēlēib · tairbeapāō an oīle i n-ūir," id., p. 236, v. 9; "eapbāō šoin an šille fāoir · eapbāō linne a oil i n-ūir," ō maolēiapāin, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 152, v. 34. ³ V. 33. ⁴ Cf. also "aētšēall," "cūir orēpa cōrōēe umāō cēann · nāc fūiſēte cōrōēe an t-aētšēall," C. Mcōāīre, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 185, v. 10. ⁵ V. 34. ⁶ Cf. poem "atuarō iarēar cābair cāiſ," MSS. Mat. 625. ōn aīro., O'C. Donn's bk., p. 144. ⁷ AU. 490, 4 M. 489. ⁸ K II. 108. ⁹ L. mac Īth, K. II. 277. ¹⁰ He married Sadhb, widow of Maicniadh and mother of Mac Con. A dispute between Eoghan, son of Oilill, and Mac Con, his stepson, led to the expulsion of Mac Con. ¹¹ K. II.

31. Talk not to us of your forts.¹ They are only graves.² Your mention of the invasion of the Gaill is no service to Eibhear's cause.
32. If you have a fragrant gathering from the goodness of your gardens,³ you should not speak of such trees which existed not in Eibhear's day.
33. You omitted to mention the fishy estuaries in the portion of generous Eireamhon. Let us hear of something in your country like ⁴ what the Northerns found waiting for them here.
34. I have an old proverb against them,⁵ viz., "From the North comes help," ⁶ if we are to be told of the writers who would speak harshly of the North.
35. Some of the proofs of what I assert you shall find in the "Battle of Ceall Osnadh," ⁷ where Caiseal's king and troops fell at the hand of Erc's son.
36. If Eibhear's Half was the better, what caused guileless Eireamhon not to take it finally, when Eire was divided a second time spite of Eibhear?
37. He gave a province to Ir's son, after slaying Eibhear fighting for the land, and he gives Mumha to Eibhear's race, calling it two provinces.⁸
38. Your egging us on to attack Ir's race has not shown the land to be Eibhear's. You shall not separate us (cl. Eir. and cl. Ir) so as to get gentler treatment for yourself.
39. Every share which Ir's race got, they got it from us with our free consent. It was not so with the share which Lughaidh's ⁹ race held, getting it from you.
40. The rule of Mumha was in turn with the Dairine (and Derg-thine) by right of force, until Oilill Olum ¹⁰ in the west got Lughaidh (Mac Con) as a fosterling from Maicniadh.
41. Only the other half of Mumha was shared between you and the Earna.¹¹ As to the way it was shared see your "Battle of Mucroimhe." ¹²
42. I do not see that Eibhear Fionn's half was an equal half. Even if your story is at all probable, it does not depreciate ¹³ the greatness of our country.¹⁴
43. As to the division made by the sons of Deala Mac Loigh ¹⁵—if you take your stand on that—their knowledge of the land was not fit ¹⁶ to divide the provinces evenly.

231; Silv. Gad. ¹² in LL. Silv. Gad., &c. ¹³ Cf. use of *ceitim*. *po-laigim*, I hide, do away with. Cf. *vo fálaig* *ḡac annrmaḡt*, poem "*briatna coḡaib* *ḡon éat laigheac*," by *Seitfin mór*, l. 32. ¹⁴ V. 155. ¹⁵ K. I. 107
¹⁶ *fiú* = fit, able to, cf. VI. 119; XVIII. 22; "*if fiú an t-octar uola im* *óion*," Δ. Ó *ḡálaig*, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 294, v. 13.

44. Romn aic-gearr do réir toile • do mhórad rin pé poile
 poinn fíor san éombáir maicne • do poinn Cearmna ir
 Sobairce.
45. Romn toile ní ní ar gáidac • roir óir már óir brácar
 fa poinn eirde ir gáidac toil • roir cúigeas nó ceatpar.
46. Do dearbáir ar poinn toile • do déanamh dóib pé poile
 gac porc i dtuisoir i dtír • do anrad ann san eiríó.
47. Már poinn ceart ar doir n-anna • tugrad fíor doib ar
 Danba
 ir ceart don mhórad do gab • an Mumha mar dá cúigeas.
48. Ceirde eir do maó o'Éirinn • iarrma fear mbois ir
 Éilim
 éin-fear dóib fa ní Mumha • i moct gurab i an ceatrumha.
49. Éin-rí ahdán mar ar éubair • ó roin i le ar an Mumha
 ní poinn ceart do cúis tíre • 'r a do dóib i n-éin-ríge.
50. An cúigeas raor áirne uib • ní tré ceann carla ac mar rin
 o'Éir bair noá cúigeas do mear • san bair ionnta ac ar
 áirneas.
51. Na raorire cúigir ná cpero • muna bfuil dá dearbáir
 deir
 ac mar ceann arto-maca móir • ní Cairil go bfuair
 onóir.
52. Cádair aige ní raibe • go bfuair ráorais an baile
 ní do rí Cairil mar rin • tugad comairce Cairil.
53. Míor é rin mhóir-porc Mumhaac • go dtáinig Corc mac
 Luigdeac
 cia an mhóir-porc oile tré ceann • do bí raor ar rí
 Éireann.
54. Acá i sceart gac mhóir go réil • rann eile ar a dtuisce féin
 gac onóir a deircei a-noir • nac é fuair ac an eaglais.
55. Ní féidir a n-abra rinn • nac bréas fa leir Éirir fínn
 leat Míosa Nuadac ó Conn • má dearbáir a beir comérom.
56. Conall Cmaicna dearbáir eir • do rann Éirinn i rda eir
 nac raibe i gcomérom do Conn • a Cairil ná cuir-re ar
 Conall.
57. Gá lion tríocá i nÉirinn áin • ní molta an poinn o'Inir
 fáil
 mar duairc annro tar m'Éir • san leabair glan dá fairnéir.

¹ K. II. 125.² V. 160.³ e.g., the five sons of Deala.⁴ M. 56.⁵ K. II. 238; 4 M. 10, 56. ⁶ i.e., "The division of Eire was into four parts as I have shown (48), Mumha being one."⁷ V. 68.⁸ V. 132.⁹ Tadhg had not used this argument explicitly, but had appealed to the Book of Rights, in which Caiseal is stated to be metropolis of Patrick. ¹⁰ Cf. v. 132. ¹¹ Magh Leana, p. 69. Conall was Conn's counsellor. ¹² Supra, 13.

44. A summary arbitrary division they made with each other. A lasting division without partiality to any race was the one which Cearmna and Sobhairce made.¹
45. An arbitrary division is not usual between a pair if they be relations.² In dividing land arbitrariness is commoner between five or four men.³
46. A proof of an arbitrary division being made by them is, that wherever they landed they remained and quarrelled not.
47. If it be an equal division—strictly speaking—which the Fir Bolg made of Eire, few of their kings got Mumha as two provinces.⁴
48. The remnants of the Fir Bolg and Eilim⁵ made four parts of Eire. One of them was King of Mumha, so therefore Mumha is only a fourth.
49. One king alone, as is right, from that on has reigned in Mumha. Your five districts are not a proper division, seeing that two of them were under one rule.⁶
50. As to the independent province you mention,⁷ it was thus, and not through its strength, that that came about, as we see when we consider that your two provinces have no other point of superiority except what I mentioned (their being two).
51. Do not believe in the provincial liberties,⁸ if you have no other proof of them than that Caiseal's king was honoured as superior to Ardmhacha.⁹
52. Caiseal got no honour till Padraig got the place. Thus not to the king of Caiseal (but to the Church) was given the right of sanctuary (?) given to Caiseal.
53. Caiseal was not the palace of the Muimhnigh till Corc Mac Luigheach¹⁰ came. Was there any other palace which, owing to its strength, was independent of Eire's king?
54. There is in the "Rights of the Kings" a rann whence you will see that all the honour you mention was given not to the king but to the Church.¹⁰
55. Your statement about Eibhear's "Half" must be wrong, if Leath Mogha be proved by Conn himself to be equal to Leath Cuinn.
56. I assert that Conall of Cruachain divided Eire in two. O Tadhg! do not accuse Conall of dividing the land unfairly to Conn.¹¹
57. How many cantreds in noble Eire? No division of Inis Fail is to be approved without, as I said, a clear book recording it.¹²

58. Ó naé tizmito ré céile · i rean-roinn dá bfuair éire
anam ar roinn Sall a-nor · máir lór téada dá tomair.
59. Acáto réir oile a n-urdaíl · do bpeit¹ na laoc ó lonnrouin
lion condae bar nód cóigeaó · áirmito i n-ar n-aon-cóigeaó.
60. Dá réir rin ní mó ná leaé · rug Eogan ó Conn na sceae
sibé duine a-veir so rug · áirneao tighite a n-eaprcop.
61. Do puit oipeadair máir fearr · a mlic Dáire ir iongnao leam
parcólón iar brior a rgeal · o'annain i n-luir Saiméar.
62. Arto-rí éireann an Oasda · ar mbreit rogan don Vanba
ir clann Cearmada fa reae · o'annain ar-aon i n-Oileae.
63. Sá dár⁵ dó 'r ní⁶ hias a-máin · aet a tóarraró luir fáil
do b'i a roga brei i bfuir · lois a n-aitighe dearbair.
64. Cia doo porcaib áille éiar · nar fúro rí éireann so brian
ór iao na háite do b'fearr · do tógraó ríogaó éireann.
65. Mí maoróte ar porcaib Mumneae · Corcae porclairege
Lumneae.
- puit nuairé do rónrao Sall · ní beanann riad dár rean-
rainn.
66. Tioðlaicte Dé dár bflaib · a scur ar scúl ná braitó
dā mearta a scur ní éireo rinn · naé móir a roear o'Éirinn.
67. Tré fíor-flaeta fearae dāoib · tiz mar veir Morann mac
Maoin
- iarz i n-inbear ón aithe · ir i tórágaib corcairte.⁸
68. Mar rin ir tioðlaicte ón Rí · do veir loea ir aibne i tóir
'r do eadairt éirz ir corcair · meab⁹ ciunra calao-por.
69. Ná taéaoir abann ná loe · móir tarba a néamann 'r a scloé
'r ar dá maíom móroe an roear · tiz an tír do éioinoeao.
70. Curo móir dá roear do éae · mar coirgcear leo a rgrí do gnaé
do eaoó airóir an oirir · o'iomcúir neit i n-aréraišib.
71. Curo eile tiz dá tarba · na muilne ag meit an arba
móir a bpeíom i n-aimeir te · o'fionn-fuaraó ceatara ir
doaine.
72. An tír ar a molcar roin · bloz calhan do buain don muir
báeao ná tíre tiz dé · 'r ní bío na trágaib coirte.
73. Acáto doaine ir tír rin féin · éairngear an muir éuca i scéin
féae a éaró an mó an roear · maíom na rrué san éioinoe-
oéao.

¹ Cf. "do bpeit fiaóain crioé cairil," T. McOáire, R.I.A. 23 L. 37, p. 206, v. 12. ² On Erne, K. I. 158. ³ K. I. 222. ⁴ Tuatha De Danaan, K. I. 222. ⁵ Sá with o(ε)Δ(i)m, o(ε)ú, o(ε)ár, o(ε)áet, o(ε)á mé, (followed by oo, oe, rir) "at what point am I in it" "in short" is a common phrase, cf. 3 Sh. voc. ⁶ V. 45. ⁷ O'R. A.D. 90. ⁸ Cf. "roga rin móir-éoirte mear · corcairte ríe ir ruamnear," T. McOáire, Trans. Gael. Soc., 1808, p. 20. ⁹ Meabam formed from Redupl. Pret. of maidim. ¹⁰ Cf. Eriu, III. 112. n. leg. abann? ¹¹ V. 61.

58. As we agree not about any old division of Eire, let us dwell on that made by the Gaill if measuring-lines enable us to compute it.
59. According to the heroes from London, the two are equal. They count in our one province the number of counties which are in your two.
60. Therefore, not more than half did Eoghan get from plundering Conn. Let him who says he did, count the titles of the bishops.
61. If your palaces be the finer, O son of Daire, I think it strange that Partholon on hearing of them, remained in Saimear ! ²
62. And that the high king the Daghdha ³ and Cearmaid's sons ⁴ in their turn should, on getting their choice of Banba, remain in Oileach !
63. Indeed, ⁵ not they alone, but all who got Inis Fail chose to remain here (in the North). The marks of their dwelling here prove it.
64. As Eire's kings chose the fairest places, which of your fair western places did any king inhabit before Brián ?
65. You should not boast of those ports of the Muimh-nigh, Corcach, Portlairge, Luimneach. They are new places founded by the Gaill and concern not our old division.
66. Think not to put aside ⁶ God's gifts to our princes. If you thought of doing so, we at least do not believe that their advantages were not great for Eire.
67. It is righteousness in rule, you know, which, as Moran mac Maoin ⁷ says, brings fish into the estuary at ebb-tide, and produce ⁸ on the shores.
68. Lakes and rivers bring gifts from God, and it is to bring fish and produce that the coast-edges are broken. ⁹
69. Find not fault with river ¹⁰ or lake. Great is the value of their pearls and stones, and by their springing forth is caused a mighty advantage, the drying of the earth.
70. A great deal of their benefit is the way in which men's fatigue is saved by them by travelling the country carrying things in vessels.
71. Another of their benefits is the mills grinding corn. Great is their service in hot weather for cooling of beasts and men.
72. As for the country, of which you mention as a good thing the taking of some of its land from the sea, ¹¹ the result is that the land is flooded, and there are no fruits on its shores.
73. There are men in your own land who bring the sea to them from afar. Think, O Tadhg, if the unceasing flow of the streams be not a greater boon !

74. Don aro-rísh ré linn tarla · áirinn leabair a tarba
 shac abann shac loc dar lins · fear a ainne ar éirinn.
75. Fada ó loruair an fuil rísh · ní do Románcáir a ríol
 ir ar nac áirinnéar dó · breit éiríor i mbeiréir lúda.
76. Oétauin Augur an rísh · do fear ne hloruair an tír
 ar Oétauin maoréar rin · breit éiríor ré linn i
 mbeiréir.
77. A éairísh ir do éad tnuéa · éilear tura ar mac úna
 a éirílaicé ón Rísh do nim · mar a-veir áirne éirísh.
78. Már beas a mbísh mar veir · a bfuair Conn oiréce a éine
 a bfaéil do buó lunn lat · ré maoréar ar illosh
 lúadac.
79. Ir iongnad már ionann rin · maoréar linne asur lib
 o'éoshan illoir coisill an bíó · 'r éirílaicé Oé dar n-áir-
 rísh.
80. Illoir coisill Conn a éuro bíó · 'r ní raibe shorá na tír
 o'faicill shorá 'r é ar éantá · do rísh a veit éiréantá.
81. Ilí bíad dá bpoicéad mar Conn · shorá i shuio éoshan don
 éonn
 ne hainoligead éis do éadé · meiré o'éoshan a ionráó.
82. Céad do ní fuil éirí bíó · roéair áirinn-re nac éir
 ré linn nac facar plásh · shóir eile nárb ionráó.
83. Eanna ir Muineamón már oib · báir don plásh fuairéad na
 rísh
 an abra fearáa iar na éiríor · nac raibe plásh na
 éirílaicéar.
84. Uaité a rísh ar éonn mbanba · o'fuil éirí ir é ar damna
 már lúsh plásh ir shorá · na ré a éir an éor-molta.
85. Ná habair riom shuab ró · ir dá n-abrainn ní ra mó
 riom mac nluóine shuab mar · ar éirinn trí céad
 bliadán.
86. Fuair i ráiréir éiréad · shó éirí asan ó éiréad
 dá oiréadair áiréar éiréad · léim éar umir éiréad.
87. Ir beas éaró do éirí céad · náir⁹ éiré réin na trí éirí éiré
 rioméar i noiré ar oile · do éirí uairéad lúóine.
88. Neac na n-áiré níor éirísh · acé ceatrar¹⁰ do éirí éirí
 éis éar éallad éirí ir-éas · éarir an ré éirí do éirí-
 éad.

¹ V. 51. ² Conn. ³ Anecd. II. ⁴ V. 64. ⁵ K. II. 142. ⁶ K. II. 130.
⁷ Cf. P. H. ⁸ Only 251 in K. ⁹ n- irrationally prefixed as often to
 an- ar. ¹⁰ Cúis? The numbers of years would then be 286, and four of
 Eibhear's race would be included.

74. For the king, in whose time such things happened, the books record as his "benefits" every river and lake that sprang forth in his reign over Eire.
75. Far removed from Herod was the princely blood.¹ Not of the Romans was his race. Therefore Christ's birth in Bethlehem of Juda is not attributed to him.
76. Octavian Augustus was the prince who let the land to Herod. Christ's birth in Bethlehem in his reign is mentioned as a glory of Octavian.
77. It is from jealousy, Tadhg, that you deny to Una's son ² the gifts given him by God, as "Finghin's Vigil" ³ says.
78. If the things which Conn got on the night of his birth be of small value, as you say, you would be wildly desirous to have them to boast of for M^{ogh} Nuadhat.
79. Strange would it be if what I boast of, and what you boast of, were the same, namely Eoghan's hoarding of the food,⁴ and God's gifts to our king.
80. Conn did not hoard the food, and there was no hunger in his land. To guard against famine what a king has to do is to be righteous.
81. There would have been no famine in Eoghan's land had he taken precautions as Conn. Famine usually results from unrighteousness. Bad for Eoghan is your mention of it.
82. What does Eibhear's race do with the "benefits"—no real ones—you mention? Were there not seen in their day plagues—another word you should not have used?
83. As Eanna⁵ and Muineamhon⁶ are of your stock these kings died of the plague. Do you still say, after hearing that, that there was no plague in their reign?
84. It was the fewness of the kings of Eibhear's blood over Banba which caused their being fewer plagues and famines in their time, my exaggerating friend!⁷
85. Do not tell me that it is an exaggeration—no, not even if I were to increase the number—when I say that the division of Iughoine's sons lasted in Eire three hundred years.
86. I have found in the sayings of sages that I have a right, if a definite number be available, to neglect an indefinite one.
87. Little less than three hundred years⁸ are those which⁹ even the thirteen of Iughoine's proud race who are counted reigning in succession, spent as kings.
88. No one arose against them, except four of Eibhear's race. They came in on them in violation of promise; but short was the time allowed them.

89. Ar aba an ceathair do theacht · i gceannur Teahra tar ceart
nóir beanad an poinn nómhe · dár mair do rliocht luaine.
90. Ré ar mhó ná ar n-áiream bliadan · do bádar do réir fiaðan
cuid don trliocht rin luathair linn · i ttreire ann ngead
air o'Éirinn.
91. Críoch Connacht a nótair féin · na leir ní cuirte mar céim
ir cóigead laigean uile · aca ó amhrir luaine.
92. Do bat d'íob-ran na héarna · cuimhí féin fad a ttearna
i gceannur Munán i-muig · ir Dál b'riatad i nUlltaib.
93. Clann Deaðad go gceuar gceimeann · trear laoc-aime na
héireann
don trliocht céadna mar ad élor · Teahra éarna ir é a
nóomhgar.
94. Mar rin nac ionghad a ráo · gac réo dár dealthar im d'an
bail ar a poinn go raibe · tar éir cloinne luaine.
95. Ili muig a lear a ríom · m'áiream bliadan m'áiream ríog
do deardad ceirt mar fuar rinn · pleacta luaine ar
Éirinn.
96. Tugrad Gaoróil mar tá róm · realb éireann o'luaine móir
d'á cloinn tar éir a n-áir · oí do léigead ruoradad.
97. Fuar Tuathal ar tteacht tar tuinn · an treilb céadna mar
do tuill
ní had airtis Tuath do b'ir · an treilb d'ó-ran aet Gaoróil.
98. Ar reilb Tuathal ná cuir brat · Corb Ólum nóirb óige an
mac
ar ron nár catuis fá ceann · mar nár leir realb na
héireann.
99. Iar r'grior aitead a héirinn · tug Tuathal dar mac férdlim
a d'utair féin da gac fear · dár mair do mace Mílead.
100. Dar nóir ir dearmad tug ort · mar do ráir-re 'r ní loet
nac iad Gaoróil tug a otol · re reilb éireann do Tuathal.
101. Ar gailrad rliocht Éirir fínn · do comailreao i leir rinn
creao fá mbemir diomdác d'íob · ní móir do rónrad
o'foirbhíog.
102. Re linn reargad ríog 'r a reat · ó do éirbhíreao a gceart
nóir gac r'óla aet éin-rís d'íob · ir Eogan Mór na leir-
rís.
103. Már oic an éirir-re ar Vanba · ragam leat a mac-ranla
ó taoi re tuba ar gcomráo · ir bíom réo nár n-iomarbáir.

¹ i.e., he had only counted those before the group of Eberian and Irian kings. ² K. II. 230. desc. from Conaire Mor. ³ K. II. 237. ⁴ K. II. 220. ⁵ T. Luachra, Co. Kerry. ⁶ V. 102. ⁷ Cf. infra, 143; also "móir o'olc fuair dar b'ear ruirge · fad ceann-ra a críoch rean-luigne," T. McOáire, R.I.A. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 35. ⁸ K. II. 259. ⁹ V. 104. ¹⁰ From Tuathal to Brian. ¹¹ Criomthann, K. II. 368.

89. Except for these four coming unjustly into the sovereignty of Teamhair, never was the arrangement of Iughoine wrested from those who lived of Iughoine's race.
90. For longer than my computation¹ there were, according to witness, some of the race I speak of in power in every part of Eire.
91. That the land of the Connachta, and the whole province of the Laighin was theirs since Iughoine's day is not to be brought as a charge against them !
92. Of their race were the Earna²—recall how long they ruled over Mumha—and also Dal bhFiatach³ in Ulaidh.
93. Also Clann Deadhaidh,⁴ fierce in onset, one of the three warrior-bands of Eire, were of the same race, as is known. Teamhair Earna⁵ is their dwelling.
94. Thus it was not strange to say all I have said in my poem, namely that fortune smiled on the patrimony of Iughoine's children after him.
95. I need not count my years or my kings to prove how we acquired the rights over Eire enjoyed by Iughoine's race.
96. The Gaedhil, as I said, gave possession of Eire to Iughoine. To his children after him they left the prescriptive right to it.
97. Tuathal on coming over the sea got, as he merited, the same title. Not the Aitheach Tuath but the Gaedhil gave the possession to him.
98. Do not suppress the acquisition of Tuathal. Corb Olum was not the younger boy,⁶ though he did not fight for Eire⁷ because its ownership was not his.
99. After the exile of the Aitheach from Eire, Tuathal (whose son was Feilim) gave his own land back to every man who survived of Mile's race.⁸
100. I suppose it was forgetfulness, and not malice, that made you say⁹ that it was not the Gaedhil who consented to Tuathal's holding Eire.
101. The race of fair Eibhear fulfilled in our regard their promises. Why should we be angry with them ? They were not unjustly ambitious.
102. When they (Tuathal's race) had re-won their rights (?) for sixty-seven reigns¹⁰ Fodhla had only one king¹¹ of your race besides Eoghan Mor a half-king.
103. If this title (of our race) be a poor one, let us see one of yours to match it. Since you will contest my assertions, let us be even in our contention.

104. Iar tairbhir a gceirte fa' d'ó . do' faoi' miall nárb' aindíor
dó
d'á ngorpead' an-fílaic' d'fúil' éirí . ní mipe a-déir m'ar
dubhairt.
105. Már é ro' eus ort-ra a' fáo . oic' do' nárb' re' miall nárb'
nar' leir an' éirí mar' roin' . le' tiomna ar' aic'ur' tuacail.
106. Ó tá leat-ra do' meabhair . an' rann-ra a-déir im' deasaid'
ná habair naé' raib' bail' . ar' tiomna léill' naoi-ghallais'.
107. Do' rannrao' a' mic' iar' rin' . Inir' airt' ba' haíra in² fír
ir' d'óib' do' beair' a' ngeill' . céin' baid' ³ na' niuill' im' ghréin-ghil.
108. Munar' leir' í ré' tiomna . créad' fárb' fúluing' a' b'íod'ba
éirí d'á' ghail' ir' d'á' fíleic' . ré' céad' bliad' an' i' n-oir' gead'.
109. Már' mórb' leat' ar' níosad' d'íob' . as' rin' d'uit' aimp'ear' na' níos
créad' an' leic'-r'geal' do' b'íre . uait' ar' ron' na' haímp'ire.
110. Ná' tairis' claoic' d'ó m'áiríne' níos . 'r' d'á' léiginn' a' n' d'á
d'cruan' d'íom
léim' níos' d'ur' ba' t'p'ire . ná' an' ríol' f'írb' áiríne'-re.
111. Rí' d'ó' b'p'earab'ra' ó' tairis' . do' fáo' re' Conn' re' Cairb'ire
ir' re' Cormac' na' mb'ead' b'íor' . d'ó' d'á' ghail' ir' d'éanta
d'imb'íois'.
112. Ní' rí' Conn' do' réir' rias'la . a-déir' t'p'ra' d'c' r'ead' mbliad'na
már' d'á' rí'ge' an' ré' nárb' l'ám' . buain' d'ón' roinn' do' b'í' as'
Eog'án.
113. Cia' do' b'áir' rí' ar' Inir' fáil' . naoi' mbliad'na' Eog'áin' ra'
Spáin
már' é' Conn' ba' rí' cá' fáo . r'ia' n'óib'ir'c' illo'ga' l'ua' d'ao.
114. Iar' d'cruim' Eog'áin' i' g'eat' . cia' ba' rí' ó' roin' ama'c'
ar' g'ráo' d'c' eim'is' abair' ruin' . an' r'ead' do' m'air' mac' f'éróim.
115. Ar' m'áir' eam' d'áir' r'ia' d'na . r'ead' an' mó' náro' r'ead' mbliad'na
már' mó' ní' c'p'íod'ce' ó' d'áin' . naé' d'earna' r'ao' ná' r'ead' r'áin.
116. D'eit' as' r'íor' éur' b'réas' ro' leic' . éigean' d'áin' nó' ar'
n' d'earb' d'á ar' cleic'
g'ib' d'íob'-rin' ar' ura . d'áinne' ní' d'áil' ur'p'ra.
117. Cor'nuil' rin' ir' mar' d'éirí . nar' éur' Conn' r'ó'g'ra' r'emie'
gan' leic'-r'geal' as'at' d'c' roin' . ran' éat' re' mar' d'ao' Eog'áin.
118. Náé' mai'c' an' r'ó'g'ra' ca' d'á . ré' cup' i' g'ceann' na' r'ia' d'á
long'p'ort' do' g'abáil' na' g'ar' . ir' r'ead' d'á' éuinn' do' é'p'íod'ao.
119. S'geal' gan' d'at' éuríre' ar' do' é'p'íat' . níorb' f'íu' r'ia' d'á' r'ear'
d'á- l'iaé
Cormac' ro' g'abáil' do' é'or' . níorb' f'írb' b'p'ead' d'ó' d'á' n' d'earna' d'.

¹ III. 13; II. 10, 4.² in=mo. O.I. form of n. pl.³? MSS. beró.⁴ V. 136-138.⁵ Magh Léana, p. 36.⁶ K. II. 266.⁷ Conn.⁸ V. 163-164.⁹ Magh Léana, pp. 94, 108.¹⁰ F. Muilleathan, K. II. 273.¹¹ III. 27.

- 104 Since they (the Northerns) had twice won their rights Niall thought it would not be amiss of him to call Corc's race "usurpers." It was not I who used the word,
105. —if it be this that caused you to say ¹ of noble Niall—you had no right to say it—that Eire was not his to bequeath, as Tuathal had done.
106. As you know the verse I shall now quote, do not say that fortune was not granted to Niall's testament.
107. "His sons after him divided Art's Isle—wonderful were the heroes.² To them are given their hostages, as long as clouds are about the bright sun."³
108. If it was not his to dispose of, why did his foe let Eire be held as an inheritance by his stock and race for six hundred years?
109. If you think exaggerated the number of their kings, you can examine the length of the kings' reigns. What excuse can you give to explain away the time?
110. Try not to refute my enumeration of the kings. Even were I to leave out two-thirds of them, my kings would be more than (those of) Eibhear's race you mention.
111. As you call Conn, Cairbre and true-judging Cormac "kings with opposition"⁴ little account is to be taken of your word.
112. "Conn was lawfully king only for seven years" you say as "in his reign was included the time when he dared not meddle with Eóghan's portion."
113. Who was king of Inis Fail for the nine years when Eóghan was in Spain?⁵ If Conn, how long was it before the expulsion of Mogh Nuadhat?
114. Who was king—for the love of your honour tell us!—after Eóghan's fall in battle⁶ while the son of Feidhlim⁷ was alive?
115. There are witnesses to my account. See now whether there were more than seven years (in Conn's reign). If there were, one cannot believe your poem when it says it made no error through foolish partiality or any slip.
116. I must keep charging you with falsehood, or else leave my argument unstated. Whichever of these courses be the easier, neither is easy for me.
117. So too you say that Conn gave no warning before advancing.⁸ You have no other explanation for his killing of Eóghan in the fight.
118. Was it not sufficient warning to be sent to the prince, his pitching his camp near him (Eóghan), and the hanging of Conn's messengers?⁹
119. An improbable story you invent for your chief. Fiacha Fear-Da-Liach¹⁰ would not have been fit to put Cormac beneath the hanger,¹¹ and, had he done so, it would have been unjust.

120. Créao éus o' fíaca san níge . do buain dé nó roinn tíre
d'á mbeir Cormac i lámh leir . iar maróm fair mar do
máoróir.
121. Do rḡéal ar Cormac tré éar . ne fíaca ar oirḡear a ráo
a huét oruad d'á n-iaruad neart . do b'fíu a d'úitḡear ne
oraoirḡeact.
122. ḡr las oraoirḡeact mar dearbado . doimam é ḡion ḡo
ndeapnad
ir faḡaid fíadain oile . ne maróm Oroma-Damḡaire.
123. Oréas ar Moḡ Ruic do fearar . do éur ra rḡéal ro ar
ḡeasor
ḡo noubarir fir ní ráo ceart . méapad coirḡe do oruirḡeact.
124. ḡḡéal fuar ar a ḡfionntar oréas . ní cóir a éreiream ḡo h-éas
'r san conḡnam éin leabair lair . ir mar rin adá é'forbair.
125. Máir as truaill níge Muhan . do éuit Cairbre na ḡeupad
raoa uaitḡe an áit nar éuit . i nḡabar áicḡe orḡruic.
126. Seact mbliadna déas don éupad . or éirḡe foḡla ir or
Muhan
ḡur an ḡeact-ra ionar éalma . do b'ḡe an ní san fḡearabua.
127. Mí éioḡad Moḡ Corb naḡáil . 'r ní ḡeabad an eact do lámh
ḡur éeannuig ón ḡfḡin teact lair . oile do éeao éirḡe a
otupair.
128. Curḡar an eact ḡo nḡairḡe . níor lámh neact oirḡo¹⁰ Cairbre
act an t-anḡlonn naḡar mḡin . Orḡar apnad¹¹ mac Oirḡin.
129. Tuairḡnro na fir a éile . d'á nḡlan-apnad ḡo nḡéire
ráḡbad Cairbre a miorḡe ḡaile . Orḡar rinḡe i ḡeó-luigḡe.
130. Tis Caoilte ir Oirḡin ran ár . ir Orḡar beo-mad na éam
ir do ráorḡeao na nḡir fir . naḡ raḡad o'earbad leirḡir.
131. Do ráro-rean mu a ḡruapair mu . do éreact-ḡoin coir
asur éiar
doirḡe leam rleas Cairbre í éuinn . roir m'muinn ir
m'árainn.
132. Do éuit Orḡar san éairḡe . ir do éear ra deor Cairbre
iar ḡeomrac Orḡuir forḡail . le Semeon o'foḡarḡail.
133. Ar fḡin fḡinn ir maorḡe an ḡleo . ar ron Moḡa do teact leo
ráḡ a n-éacta maorḡeair leact . a ḡeannac má do tuillḡeao.
134. ḡuin áirḡ níor éuirḡe ar Mlac Con . ḡé tá ro na leir d'á éor
por mḡadair ḡér bo capra . Luḡad i ḡeact Mucraḡa.

¹ V. 177.² K. II. 378.³ M. was said to be a disciple of Simon Magus. I can find no reference to the above story.⁴ Forbair Oroma

Damḡaire.

⁵ V. 182.⁶ Near Tara.⁷ Twenty-seven years in K. II. 355.⁸ K. II. 355.⁹ Clanna Morna.¹⁰ oirḡo acc. also as nom. "do

doimnall oirḡo donḡuir," f. ón éaince, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 29.

¹¹ áruac, MSS.¹² K. II. 354.¹³ Nephew of Oisín.¹⁴ Lughaidh Mac Con, V. 165; K. II. 280.

120. Why did not Fiacha take the kingship or some land from him, had Cormac been in his power after conquering him as you boasted.¹
121. Your story told to disgrace Cormac should rather be told of Fiacha. If Fiacha sought power by means of druids, it would have been worthy of his turn for wizardry!
122. Though this story of wizardry is a poor proof of your point, I let it pass—though as a fact it is not true. Let us have some other evidence for the rout of Druim Damhghaire.²
123. I know that a lie about Moghruith is attributed in the tale to Peter, how Peter said to him—a wrong thing to say—“Your wizardry shall abide for ever.”³
124. An unlikely tale, of which the falsehood can be seen, should never be believed, especially when there is no book to support it. Such is your tale of the Siege.⁴
125. If it was when seeking the kingship of Mumha that, as you say,⁵ Cairbre of the heroes fell, far from Mumha is famous Gabhar Aichle⁶ where he fell!
126. Seventeen⁷ years the hero ruled Fodhla and Mumha till that battle⁸ where he was valiant. He was a king unchallenged.
127. Mogh Corb would not have dared to meet him, and would not risk the battle, till he paid the Fian⁹ to come with him. Evil for a hundred was the end of their hosting.
128. The battle is fought with heroism. None dared to slay¹⁰ Cairbre except the hero—no gentle one—fierce¹¹ Oscar, Oisin's son.
129. The men smite each other with bright keen arms. Cairbre in the strength of his bravery leaves Oscar stretched in death-swoon.
130. Caoilte and Oisin come upon the scene of slaughter when Oscar half dead was unconscious, and the pair said to him that he would not die for want of efforts to cure him.
131. He said to them “sorer than all the wounds I have got east and west is the spear of Cairbre son of Conn between my navel and my kidneys.”
132. Oscar died soon after, and Cairbre fell at last, after his fight with strong Oscar, at the hand of Semeon of the Fotharta.¹²
133. That victory is to be attributed to the fact that Fionn's Fian came with them (the Southernns) on account of Mogh Corb.¹³ You may boast, if you wish, of the reason why they did their great deeds, namely their being hired—if they deserved it!
134. Art's death is not to be assigned to Mac Con,¹⁴ though this verse is said of him “It was Lughaidh—though a friend—who slew him at Mucroimhe.”

135. Créao ar éiall dó ro mór fíor . Luð do mairbhad na tóirí níos
bár na nglolla congnaim lað . 1 gcað Cíonna la Cormac.
136. Do bár Cairbre ir ionann oró . dá cor mar rin ar illoð Corb
'r nac leir do roðair ra ngleoð . aét lé bráðair féin Semeon.
137. dá gcurtadai na nís-re ar gcúl . ní fuigti go fearad tóin
dá éireire do bí ar bhanba . nís oile gan fíearabha.
138. Minic mian tar gáir-fmaét níos . do bupreao le cáé a ríod
ní dé rin tré éarí n-anma . goirtear ní go bñearabha.
139. Gaé ní mérb ionráda an t-ainm . fada róó ó fuair a gairm
ór aca do b'fearr a n-eol . ná tairis na filid d'aicéao.
140. Níor áirnear le claoi nigeao . nís go bñearabha ó
óuigeao
aét com-flaítear að tpuing oíob . le bráitrib nar éuill
eiríod.
141. Dá ngoiréi nís leam-ra oíob . ne gabáil gíall ne cuairt níos
iomda mar rin oíob ne mear . dáir éoir an t-ainm náir
áirnear.
142. Muircearac Domnall Ó Néill . dá nís fóola an bñice féin
níor áirnear iao mar tarla . a nairm níos go bñearabha.
143. Ar ron nac maoríre aét go mín . Domnall Ó Lochlainn mar nís
do éuir pé caða pá ceann . að conam Inne h'éireann.
144. Dá cáé oíob-ran rraointear lair . 1 gCeann Corao ar Óal
gCair
'r 1 Maiz áðair gan time . cáé ar gállaib Duib-linne.
145. Biao do oíol na huinge d'ór . Ceann Corao lumneac do oóó
le Domnall do punneao rin . mór oíol 1 gclaoib Oilið.
146. Do féarao Muircearac lair . na cloca do bñeít tar air
bráighe Muhan tuð ir-teac . don éuairt níos nús go
lumneac.
147. Níor áirnear Toirdealbac mór . náir Ruairí do bñonao ór
níor fadil mé sup mór tarba . áirne níos go bñearabha.
148. Duailtear airgeao na níos róinn . don dá nís-re 1 gCluain
Mic Néir
rgríobao filid ar gaé fear . go nðearrao donac Tailtean.
149. Tuð Toirdealbac cuairt ro éirí . don Muhan go maét
Tráig Li
toir Mac gCaréaig do raínn . ir clann Diarmada an fearann.

¹ Vid. Var. Lect. congnaim "an appearance," i.e., "exploit" or "congnenn 1. teglamad nó tionol" (O'Dav.) "a crowd of weaklings." ² Point obscure. ³ V. 182. ⁴ M. O Lochlainn, K. III. 312. ⁵ K. III. 242. Given as full king in K.; A.U. GG. 4 M. ⁶ d. 1120. ⁷ A.U. 1088; Flann. IV. 68. ⁸ Flann. IV. 66. ⁹ Reference? ¹⁰ V. 147. ¹¹ K. III. 310. ¹² K. III. 318. ¹³ K. II. 248. ¹⁴ 4 M. 1068 and K. III. 312 give a different division.

135. If that be true, what is the meaning of Lugh's killing the three kings, and of the servants' deaths—a poor exploit ¹—brought about by Cormac at Crionna.²
136. It is the same way with Cairbre's death being attributed to Mogh Corb ³ seeing that not by Mogh Corb but by his own relative Semeon was he slain.
137. If you object to these kings (as being opposed) you shall not, to my knowledge, find any other kings however powerful in Banba who were not opposed.
138. Often spite of a king's strictness his peace was disturbed by others. Such a man cannot strictly be called "opposed."
139. Every king, to whom the word is applied, has been so called long before your time. Do not try to refute the sages for they knew best.
140. I did not in perverse method count kings who were lawfully opposed; but some of them ruled jointly with kinsmen who deserved not to be quarrelled with.
141. Were kings to be named so from taking of hostages and making kingly visitations I omitted many to be so named.
142. Muirheartach ⁴ and Domhnall,⁵ Niall's grandson, are two of Fodhla's kings, you see, whom I counted not as they were styled "challenged kings."
143. Though you will not mention Domhnall O Lochlainn ⁶ as king except with much reservation he fought six battles defending Eire.
144. Two of those battles were won by him stoutly at Ceann Coradh ⁷ over the Dal gCais, and at Magh Adhair ⁸ over the Dublin Gaill.
145. Some little vengeance for the golden ingot ⁹ was the burning of Ceann Coradh and Luimneach! Domhnall did this if that be revenge for the stones of Oileach! ¹⁰
146. Muirheartach could have brought back the stones, but it was hostages of Mumha whom he brought back from his hosting to Luimneach.
147. I counted not great Toirdhealbhach ¹¹ nor Ruaidhri ¹² who distributed gold. I thought it useless to count kings with opposition.
148. Coins were struck for those two kings as for their predecessors at Cluain Mic Nois. Poets write of them both that they held the fair of Talte.¹³
149. Toirdhealbhach made a visitation thrice into Mumha as far as Traigh Li, and divided the land between Mac Carthaigh and Clann Diarmuda.¹⁴

150. Ón d'á p'ann tu'g b'páig'oe lair • ó éloinn Cap'taig' ó d'ál s' Cair
táppar'ó g'éill Sall don eac'tra • ir' g'éill laig'ean na
g'euroeac'ta.
151. Ac't a g'oir'e d'ó do b'í • do maor'ópinn é mar' g'ac ní
mar' rin' nac' b'iu d'á maor'oeam • Ceann Cop'ar' do d'io-
r'gaoileac't.
152. Féac' an éuair'e p'io'g' p'us ar' oc'p'ac't • Ruar'ópí ar' n'ool' go
S'péin Cliaé
Dom'nall ó b'p'ain tu'g d'á coig' • ir' mac Cop'maic m'éig' Cap'taig'.
153. Do p'ann Mu'n'ain i n'od' éuro • eac'top'ra ar'-aon go g'ceac't d'uir'o
ir' tu'g a b'páig'oe do b'arr • ó m'ás Cap'taig' pé com'all.
154. Ní f'ui'g'tear éin-p'ig' oile • ac't a b'páir't p'éin p'éin oile
d'á n'oeap'p'ar'ac't d'Éir'pinn d'á éuro • ac't aon-p'oinn m'lo'ga
nuac'taro.
155. Ní iarr'p'ar'ó p'ib' p'oinn p'a lea'n'b • d'áma'ó l'ib' ó écap't a p'eal'b
már' í an p'ig'e ar' lea'n'b ann • ir' oir'p'e do b'í a h'alt'p'om.
156. A leic't'éro rin' lé d'ear'p'ar'ac't • ic' áir'eam' p'io'g' go neam'-g'lan
g'ro' beag' do háir'p'heac't lat'-ra • meap'aim nac' f'uil' ag'ac'-ra.
157. Muir'p'oeap'tac't m'ór' m'ár' leic't'-p'í • 'r' a m'ac rin' Ta'ó'g' a-d'oeir'tí
do háir'p'heac't leac't go d'ána • iac't na p'io'gaib' iom'lána.
158. Má f'uaip' Donn'ac'tó g'éill m'ro'e • do f'uiling' p'éin 'r' a f'ine
naoi m'blia'ona an p'ig'e gan p'oinn • cap' éir' b'p'ain do m'laol-
p'eac'tluinn.
159. Ainm p'leac'ta n'éill go n'oeag'-p'ac't • ceic't'p'e f'ine na Team'p'ac'
an p'ig'e d'óib' go n'oleag'ar' • an t-ainm p'ór' d'á d'em'n'eag'ar'.
160. Ní d'á g'euro ar' oc'túr' don t'ír • Team'air' b'p'eag' i m'bi'oir' p'ig'
ac't p'op't p'io'g' do d'ean'am d'í • ir' teac't éuca don p'ig'e.
161. I d'Team'p'air'g' ní p'air'b'e p'í • ó do ear'g'ain Ruac'tan i
do b'í an p'ig'e ar' a p'on' p'oin • ac'a 'r' gan iac't i d'Team'p'air'g'.
162. Rí Team'p'ac't ainm g'ac' p'io'g' d'íob' • ar' oc'p'éig'ean Team'p'ac't na
p'io'g'
Team'air' g'ac' baile i m'bí p'í • p'ac't an p'op't-anna a-d'cluinn'tí.
163. G'ac' p'í d'ár' p'io'ga'ó d'f'uil' n'éill • do n'io'ó Team'air' d'á é'p'ar'ib' p'éin
cp'eac't éus do p'luoc't éib'ir' p'inn • nac' d'ear'p'p'ar'ac't rin' p'e
n'Éir'pinn.
164. A m'he d'áir'e ir' mair'g' n'ár' é'p'ero • p'ean-p'oinn p'ileac't a-d'ear'
d'ero
ac'ta i b'p'ail n'ár' léig'ean' leam • aip'oeanna l'p're é'p'ean.

¹ Pallas Green, Co. Lim., A.U. 1168. ² D. mor O Briain d. 1194. ³ A.U. 1168. ⁴ V. 66. ⁵ V. 147; K. III. 296. ⁶ Toirdhealb'ach s. of Tadhg s. of Brian Boroimhe. ⁷ V. 145. ⁸ 1014-1022. ⁹ Of the "four families of Tara" given in Bk. of Rights and in O Duibheagain's topographical poem (cf. Magh Leana) three are not of Niall's race. Perhaps the reference is to the four Nialls who were High Kings—N. Naoighiallach, N. Frosach, N. Caille, N. Glundubh. ¹⁰ B. Ballymote?

150. From the two divisions, from Clann Carthaigh and from Dal gCais he brought hostages. On that expedition he got hostages of the Gaill and of the Laighin too.
151. Except for my time being so short, I would also have mentioned the razing of Ceann Coradh, but on that account I do not mention it.
152. Look at the visitation our chief, Ruaidhri, made South, after going to Grian Cliach.¹ Domnall O Briain² yielded to him, and the son of Cormac Mac Carthaigh.
153. He divided Mumha in two³ between them both—by your leave I say it—and took hostages, too, from Mac Carthaigh for fulfilment of his pact.
154. No other king can be found (?) of those who divided Eire in two, except on the one occasion, the division with Mogh Nuadhat.
155. You would not want to divide the child⁴ if it were rightly yours. If the kingdom be considered as a child its care was incumbent on us.
156. I do not think you can show us such a thing as that in your clumsy counting of kings—though indeed you could not count very many.
157. If Muirheartach Mor⁵ and Tadhg's son whom you mention⁶ were half kings, you counted them boldly as full kings.
158. If Donnchadh⁷ got hostages of Meath, he and his race allowed the kingdom for nine years after Brian's death to be undivided in possession of Maolsheachluinn.⁸
159. The title of Niall's blessed race is "the four families of Teamhair."⁹ That name is there to prove that the kingship was their due.
160. Not to their portion of the land did Teamhair Breagh, where they ruled, belong at first, but they made their palace of it and the kingship came to them.
161. In Teamhair there was no king after Ruadhan had cursed it. Though not in Teamhair they held the kingship all the same.
162. "King of Teamhair" was the title of them all after the abandonment of royal Teamhair. Teamhair is the name of every place where a king is. The reason of the title you now hear.
163. Every king of Niall's blood made a Teamhair of his own house. Why did not Eibhear's race do the same for Eire?
164. Son of Daire, woe to him who did not believe the old verse of the poet which I shall quote, and which is given where I have read the "Wonders of Eire."¹⁰

165. Ro d'éc i Mamain san éear • tponz níos níosna nís-éigear
san ionnraígo for miall neart • ronar ráimhe rádaileact.
166. Do mgnir tpon eile ar miall • níor éoir a ráo zér mair
brian
sur mhó a foznaim don b'anda • ná foznaim léill nataróda.
167. Tus miall gá foznaim ar mhó • zo héirinn re humla d'ó
bráighe ó níosactaib oile • nac tiobrao brian b'omne.
168. As rin fáe for-anna léill • mar tus tar muir ceitne géill
ir mar áiríro cáe na sceann • bráighe cúigeaó na héireann.
169. Sgríobtar ar n-a fíor-flaeta • mar do b'ireao react scaeta
ma n-a éoir iar n-éas do munn • óta Muir n'loet zo
héirinn.
170. Créao nac áireomunn an pí • mac fiaépac d'árb ainm Dá Cí
do gab neart zo Siab n'earpa • béim air cia d'árb m'beanta.
171. D'ibeir eioct-gall éirre ar brian • m'ár é m'aoiréar tura
ar miall
níor lamrao rin teact ré linn • gá b'earr a zcor a héirinn.
172. Níor éir brian iao a héirinn • ir níor ráim d'á haor léiginn
ar mbeir d'óib i n'Duiblinn éoir • le Danmarza do-roéir.
173. Do déandoair eactrainn re miall • connrao nac deairrao
re brian
san teact d'óib zo Clár Couéais • 'r san doel roir ar
eactrainnaib.
174. M'ár é a glór asrai-re ar miall • fá otugair a bairr do
brian
ní clor tpon ón noir oile • Conn Céao-éatae Conaire.
175. Do éreor brian i gCpíort mac Dé • 'r do éreoreao cáe
i na ré
tagra m'ir ir deacair d'aim • ar luét adaréa iódal.
176. Ilí fearar déc rin a-máin / • muna zcuirtea b'reit le báir
créao fá otugair bairr na b'ear • do nís d'ár éin ó
éirear.
177. Níor éin uair raimail na níos • ba fearr rmaet ba faroe ríot
ré píot bliadán déc beas • don oic ré linn níor léigrao.
178. Déc fulung Conaire d'áir • clann Duinn Déara réir fear báir
'r a zcuir a héirinn fá deoró • ir doir an uile d'á n-amrdeoin.

¹ Sic. O'Don. Irish Penny Jour. I. 94, or "There have been acknowledged to exist," from damim, cf. Contrib.; O'Don. Suppl.

² From the poem ascribed to Aldfred, son of king of Northumberland (Hard. Minst. II. 373); cf. Ériu, viii. 64.

³ II. 32.

⁴ V. 71.

⁵ K. II. 410.

⁶ Leabhar Gabhala. ⁷ Cf. "oir do munn" "two dying by sword," C. McDoáire, R.I.A. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 15.

⁸ K. II. 412. ¹⁰ Alps.

¹¹ V. 72.

¹² Eire.

¹³ Niall, Conn, Conaire.

¹⁴ N. 27, C. 20, C. 70.

¹⁵ V. 82. They were his foster-brothers, cf.

Bruighean Da Dhearga.

¹⁶ The British pirates M. C. 136

165. "I have found ¹ in Mumha, beyond doubt, a multitude of kings, queens, and royal poets,—no attack on strong Niall—prosperity, peace, pleasure." ²
166. There is another hard thing you said of Niall. It was not right to say—though Brian was a good man—that his benefits to Banba were greater than the service of serpent-fierce ³ Niall. ⁴
167. Niall brought to Eire, in subjection to him, captives from other kingdoms, whom Brian could not have brought. What service could be greater?
168. The reason of Niall's epithet is that he brought from over-sea four hostages, and everyone counts in addition the five hostages of the provinces of Eire. ⁵
169. It is written ⁶ how, for his kingly righteousness, seven battles were won at the coming of his body, after his death by the sword, ⁷ from Muir nIocht ⁸ back to Eire.
170. Why should I not count the king Dathi, ⁹ Fiachraidh's son, who ruled as far as Sliabh nEalpa ¹⁰? Who is he who should speak ill of him?
171. If it be the banishment of the foreign soldiers, attributed by you to Brian, of which you boast as against Niall, they dared not come in Niall's day. It was not the greater thing to drive them out.
172. Brian did not drive them out of Eire, and her learned folk were not at peace. ¹¹ When the Danes were at Duibhlinn in the East he fell at their hands.
173. The foreigners would have made with Niall a compact, which they did not make with Brian, namely, that they should not come to Cobhthach's Land, ¹² and that he should not go East on foreign hostings.
174. If it be his words which you object to in Niall, and which cause you to put Brian above him, no hard words were heard from the other two, Conn and Conaire.
175. Brian believed in Christ the Son of God, as everyone in his day. It is hard for me to contend with him in this respect by means of worshippers of idols (?).
176. I know not why—except for that one point (Niall being pagan)—unless you wanted to be partial, you assigned the superiority to any king sprung from Eibhear.
177. There never sprang from him anyone like the kings ¹³ whose power was greatest, whose peace was longest. Almost for a hundred and twenty ¹⁴ years they suffered no evil in their day,
178. —except that Conaire put up with those men, Donn Deasa's children, ¹⁵ on whom he showered affection (?)—though he expelled them finally by force together with the evil doers. ¹⁶

179. These three had the most glorious reigns. Not far did they outstep the bounds ¹ of right. They preserved the rights of their ancients, and their rights to rule in the place of their fathers.
180. For them the land was most fruitful in riches of earth and waves. The corn and the fruit proved that it was by right they got their power.
181. Brian regarded not justice in the matter of his kingship, but sought to take the kingship from the lawful ² house, after thirty generations (of his race) had passed which did not seize it.
182. It was because they held firm to justice, I suppose, and not through lack of strength, that they did not force their way unlawfully into power as Brian did.
183. As for the twelve years which you count in Brian's reign, ³ I assure you that Brian was unchallenged king of Banba only for three.
184. In the year a thousand and two Brian began his reign, and until the year ten after that he did not get hostages from Conall and Eoghan. ⁴
185. Let Brian's history be read by you, year after year, and examine his doings in the ancient books of Annals. ⁵
186. If twelve years had been found assigned him without dispute after his death for the purpose of fair argument on your part, Brian would not have been a usurper.
187. Great is your use of your Brian of the race of Blod, ⁶ whom you extol beyond all men, since all your "benefits" are attributed by you to one man alone.
188. Small is any benefit, however great, which lasted only the twelve years of Brian's reign, especially seeing that only at the end of that time was he doing any service to Eire.
189. Longer was the time of King Conaire, seventy years exactly. In his time was Eire most happy—the time you style "a short time."
190. Just as though for two thousand years the kingship was held by Mile's sons without our ancestors being benefited until Brian came!
191. Some of the "benefits" you boast of for Brian I would not boast of for Conn or Niall. However, to do a wrong thing leaves one open to attack.
192. It should not be thought wonderful in a king, ruling in the days of faith, if he enriched the Church for a time ⁷ as everyone did who received the faith.

193. Tóir ar túr éis gac eolar • tar mair go héirinn feolar
tánasodar ploidnte mar rin • pe linn úrman mair fáit
maoróin.
194. Úisú nac bac ní é ar éirinn • má tuis dóiric do luét léiginn
ir beas nac ionnár don fíor • atá go móir dá maoróeas.
195. Ar é-aicir ní maorófe mé • an fúirtac éis d'easlaip Dé
do bí i n-daoirpe feacé oile • pe doirgeacé d'loú Oronaíre.
196. Iar radorá naom ir neimeas • miorbal Dé air níor ceileas
fuit éiríor mochen do éonairic • eis na pé ar an tsacra-
maint.
197. Céile Dé don fairrige a neas • tigeas go h-aoú ar a leas
ir ríribéann do nín ar deacé • gac laoi pé noéasas
píoiceas.
198. Síó maorómeas turá ar do úrman • ní hé fuair na fíara acé
nall
d'fíor-fíata ir eas ar tuisce • do beir Dia na tiorlaicé.
199. Ní maoróte ar úrman acé go mín • san ar noúeas do buam
oínn
d'atirgeas do d'easail lair • ní nac dearnam do géan-
mair.
200. Ní fúigeas pé an ríge péin • acé tré ionénúé pola léill
ir loú Craoibe Tolca toir • i gcoas pé mac droasair.
201. Ar fon timceallas Danba • don Dál gCair rin go calma
maic leo fílleas san tacar • 'r san ríol gCunn do spreas-
acéas.
202. Ní fuair Muirdearacé dairm ríog • mac léill Síón-tuib
fa beo gníom
tuis cuairic pe h-éin-míle fear • timceall éireann ar éigean.
203. Tuis ríe Munán leir i lán • Ceallacán san eas d'ib Tál
gé beir tú nac tugaoir treall • uíla do ríogab éireann.
204. Ná hiar dearbás air níor mó • nac rabas fa ain-úreic d'ó
go cluan Cairb céas san a noul • do úrman dá mbeoír
uíal.
205. Ní móir go d'atneann pé lán • mar a-beiré a táirg to d'án
nár doirpreas fuit mar Dál gCair • ríol gCunn tar éann
a noúeas.
206. Na b'éis ort síó nac leannainn • mac Maolruanaró Maol-
feacáinn
do cuir ar Danmarc fo éirí • ir do marb Tuirgér a
n-aird-rí.

¹ For feolar as neut. verb cf. "ar gcoas eolair ir í an ós • feolar
róm gur an tí ar éirí." A. Ó Dálaigh, R.I.A. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 7. ² V. 79.
³ V. 71. ⁴ Not in A.U.; 4 M.; Chr. Scot. ⁵ Chr. Scot. 811 mentions
something similar. ⁶ K. II. 150. ⁷ Aodh Athlamh O'Neill. ⁸ A.U. 1003.
⁹ Eochaidh and Dubhtuinne sons of Ardgar, King of Ulaidh. Cf. Flann. p. 69.

193. In the East at first comes forth all knowledge which comes ¹ over sea to Eire. Family-names thus came in Brian's day— if that be matter for boasting ! ²
194. It is almost a shame for anyone to boast of him for giving alms to scholars, ³ even if he were not king of Eire at all.
195. I will not, like you, boast of the help which Aodh Oirdnidhe gave God's Church, which was in slavery till he came.
196. On his freeing the saints and shrines, a wonder of God was manifested on him. Christ's blood—hail to him who saw it !— flowed in his time from the Sacrament. ⁴
197. A servant of God from the southern sea used to come for Aodh's service, and each day there came a writing from Heaven by which he might give instruction. ⁵
198. However boastful you are of your Brian, not he but Niall ⁶ got the showers. Owing to kingly righteousness, it is to be inferred, does God give his gifts.
199. You should boast in a very restrained way of Brian's not taking our country from us. He feared that, had he tried it, we might have done something which (luckily for him) we did not do.
200. He would not have got the kingship at all except for the jealousy felt for Niall's race, and owing to Aodh ⁷ of Craobh Tolcha ⁸ being at war in the East with Ardgarr's ⁹ son.
201. As regards the circuit of Eire, bravely made by the Dal gCais, they were glad to return without a fight, and without coming to grips with Conn's race. ¹⁰
202. Muirheartach, ¹¹ the dashing son of Niall Glundubh who made by force the circuit of Eire with only one thousand men, did not get the title of king.
203. He took captive with him Mumha's king, Ceallachan, asking no leave of Tal's race, though you say ¹² that they (kings of Mumha) never for any time submitted to Eire's kings.
204. Seek no longer to prove that they (Northerns) were not independent of the king. Why did they not go to Cluain Tairbh had they been subject to Brian ?
205. It almost seems to please some folk ¹³ that Conn's race did not shed their blood, as the Dal gCais, defending their land, as you say in your poem.
206. Though I shall not follow up your falsehood, I say that Maolsheachluinn son of Maolruanaidh thrice slaughtered the Danes and killed Turgeis their king.

¹⁰ V. 145.¹¹ A.U. 943 ; 4 M. 941.¹² V. 134.¹³ *i.e.*, " You are so unpatriotic that you seem glad of the disgrace which (according to you) the Northerns incurred, by not fighting the Danes " (?).

207. Áirímhro leabhair dá céad déag . do laochraib loéclann i
n-éag
i gcat Cair-ghinne do cúir . 'r do bhuir cat i Ráit Comair.
208. Cuimhnigh Conall ir Eogan . ar fhuasg Danmairg do b'eolac
tugrad dá cat fo reac dáib . as ear Ruair as dro b'neacáin.
209. Cat Sgeite Neacáin do raó . loicean ní laigean náir las
tuillead ar mhile do bairi . fa marb do mairtib loéclann.
210. Doó Finnliac tug an deabad . o'féin loéclann as loé
feabail
dá céad déag do ceannairb fear . i n-aon-éarín díob do
háirnead.
211. Tug cat i gCill Ó n'Daighe . ar fhuoét Danmairg so
n'odaingne
capla ní Connacét dá cup . naoi gcead earbad na n'Danar.
212. Bhuirtear le Connacétairb cat . ar loingear Cumnigh amac
tugrad cat oile i ro oir . Maol dúin ríog-dáimna Connacét.
213. Do éuala tú a bair mar bhuair . Maill Ghlin-duib do b'ua
do Maill
ní hallar do dóiric acé fuil . ne fhuasg Danmairg do roéair.
214. Tuicim léill Ghlin-duib don gleo . Donnacé mac Flainn
níoir léig leo
nac móir téarín díob a-nonn . tug ár ar laochraib loéclann.
215. Eacéar iarréair Eorpa a ainm . mac léill Ghlin-duib a loir
airm
ne doirgeacé bhuair ir Muiréar . do éuit pé ne loéclonn-
cáib.
216. Ní do Dál gCair na ngeir-peann . mac Maol-miúigh ní
Éireann
iarr doiric reacé mile leir . ne Gallairb loéclann tuicir.
217. Ó Canannáin Ruairní ar doiric . ar doiricéil fhuasg so hác
Ciac
cat Muine b'neacáin do cúir . nar éuit féin ne cloinn íomuir.
218. Don trhuasg léir éuit do bean díol . dá mile ir ead coréair
díob
nía ran gcat-ra acú do ráó . tug cat ar áimlaib Cuaráin.
219. Tug ní Conall cat oile . don doiric-pe a-dubairc romhe
ar fhuasg loéclann tug trom-ár . 'r do éuit Maill Ó
Canannáin.
220. Cat as bioéclann i laighnib . o'féin loéclonn tugrad
laighnigh
i doiréair Ugaire a ní . ní do Dál gCair a gclumtí.

¹ 845. ² 847. ³ i.e., Southern I Neill. ⁴ Northern I Neill.

⁵ Cf. XXVIII. 28. ⁶ 838. ⁷ 847. ⁸ 847. ⁹ A.U. 865 ; K. II. 189.

¹⁰ A.U. 867. ¹¹ Conchobhar. ¹² A.U. 837. ¹³ At Cill Mosamhóg, near Dublin.

207. The books tell of twelve hundred of the Lochlann warriors whom he slew at Cais Glinne,¹ and he won Rath Comair.²
208. Remember Conall³ and Eoghan,⁴ who knew so well⁵ the Danes' hosts. They fought two separate battles with them, at Eas Ruadh⁶ and Ard Breacain.⁷
209. Great Lorcan king of Laighin fought Sciath Neachtain.⁸ More than a thousand warriors of the Lochlann were left dead.
210. Aodh Finnliath fought the host of the Lochlann at Loch Feabhail.⁹ Twelve hundred heads of men were counted in one heap.
211. He won valiantly at Cill O nDaighre¹⁰ victory over the Danmairg. The king of the Connachta fought it too. Nine hundred was the loss of the Danmairg.
212. A battle is won by the Connachta¹¹ over the fleet of Luimneach. They fought another battle where Maolduin¹² heir of Connachta was slain.
213. You have heard of the death (as Brian's) of Niall Glundubh,¹³ Niall's grandson. He shed not his sweat, but his blood,¹⁴ and was killed by the hosts of the Danmairg.
214. Donnchadh son of Flann left not unavenged the death of Niall Glundubh in that fray, so that few escaped. He slaughtered the warriors of the Lochlann.¹⁵
215. "The Hector of Western Europe" was the name of Niall Glundubh's son¹⁶ for his martial deeds. Before Brian or Murchadh he was slain by the Lochlainn.
216. Maolmitig's son,¹⁷ king of Eire, was not of the sharp-speared¹⁸ Dal gCais. After slaying seven thousand¹⁹ he was slain by the Lochlann foreigners.
217. Ruaidhri O Cananain, our prince, when the hosts gathered at Ath Cliath, fought the battle of Muine Brogain²⁰ where he was slain by Iomar's²¹ sons.
218. He made the host that slew him pay dearly for it, for two thousand of them fell. Before this battle he had fought with Amhlaoibh of the Sandals.²²
219. The king of Cineal Conaill fought also with that host. On the Lochlainn he inflicted slaughter, and Niall O Cananain fell.²³
220. The Laighin fought the Lochlainn at Biothlann²⁴ in the land of the Laighin, where Ugaire²⁵ their king fell. He was not of the Dal gCais, do you notice.

A.U. 919. ¹¹ V. 57. ¹⁵ At Tigh Mic Deichtig. 4 M. 919. ¹⁶ Muircheartach of the Leather Cloaks. ¹⁷ Congalach. ¹⁸ ηξέαρμαν, ηξέαρμαν MSS. ¹⁹ 948. ²⁰ 4 M. 948; K. III. 238. ²¹ Danish king, d. 873. ²² 4 M. 945. ²³ G.G. ²⁴ 4 M. 976. ²⁵ King of Laighin.

221. Féac a t-aròs an t-on Tál-fuil . éigneacán móir mac Dálaig
 do cuir cat i sCeann Maíair . dá tuis ar ar Danairib.
 222. O'éir óir na nSall do dás-roinn . annrín ar cinéal sConail
 fuair a airios iar na dail . pé tábairt do mac Ionáin.
 223. Már é ar aóbar maoróte deit . bár úrain bórúme 'r a
 meic
 pé rluas Danmairis i nteabairt . féac a scor pé sáorócalairb.
 224. Níor féadairt Dál sCair do sháct . a scor s'óirinn aet
 mar éac
 sác pé real a-nonn 'r a-nall . ní maoróte cogad loctann.
 225. Níor áiríur na cúis míle . pé Maol-féacluinn riuéct pípe
 do tuit i sCat Teamra tál . mar don ar mac ríog loctann.
 226. Ceitpe catá nar maoró mé . 'r an cat-ra Teamra tug pé
 náir cuir ar luéta an éirí . 'r san é na mac éinnéirí.
 227. A n-airios dó níor saorleat . a mbuí leo do bpoir sáorócal
 so bfuair Maol-féacluinn tar air . ar áet Cliaet do bí
 a fórbair.
 228. Tug iar-rín fósra oirdeire . do éac iar scor sác fóirneire
 le saoirpe a sean le rocar . o'féarab éireann o'roacá.
 229. An éacó bliadain dá ríge . tug Maol-féacluinn riuéct
 pípe
 na rocar rín do sean rir . sro ar úrain tear do maoróir.
 230. I n-iongnad na squire ar úrain . a teacé rā neart mall
 do éiríall
 do beir duit a maorócal air . rémear an ríog 'r a
 rocar.
 231. Cat Cairn fóroroma náir éar . ar tuis Múin tugad lair
 i bfearta nne i Maig bpeas . cat oile ar úrain do bhir-
 sean.
 232. Na bpoilcear ort má táir rín . an dá cat-rín táobaim ríu
 féac leabair úirb dá leite . 'r ní bia ort na méleite.
 233. I sconnmear níor cuirte úrain . tar Maol-féacluinn ruar
 pé mall
 níor méirte úrain bpeit a báir . s'é do aetpís Maol-
 féacluinn.
 234. Ir é do b'faoe na rí . ir do b'féar ceart ar an tóir
 'r ar mó ar a rshóbar ríu . 'r ar luas ainm ain-tuigí.

¹ A.U. 906,* 4 M. 901. ² Killaneer, Co. Don. not in A.U. 4 M. Perhaps the battle in 920 fought by Feargal is by mistake referred to Eigneachan.
³ Flann. Story is told in Flann's poem "aró do rígal," M. C. II. 103.
⁴ 980. Ragnall, son of Amhlaoibh. ⁵ A.U. 983, 998, 1000, 1017. ⁶ Sairim
 "hope," then "intend" (?). ⁷ After Teamhair. ⁸ 4 M. 979. ⁹ A.U.
 689. South of Athlone. ¹⁰ A.U. 1000. Feartagh, Co. Meath. ¹¹ Táobaim,
 I trust to, cf. "míro dān uil im dūcāig . maig tábair tír an-dūcāig :
 ó tá an rāogā na fēar fill . a táobā cūcāo pá sēreorinn"; "dā tábairt.

221. Think Tadhg ! was Eigneachan son of Dalach,¹ he who fought at Ceann Maghair,² slaughtering the Danars, of Tal's race.
222. After distributing the gold of the Gaill among the people of Conall, he had it given back again, so as to give a share to Lonan's son.³
223. If your great boast be Brian's death and his son's at the hands of the Danmarg in fight, look at the Danmairg's fortune when set against the other Gaedhil.
224. Just like the others, the Dal gCais were able only to keep the foreigners out of Eire—alternately coming and going. You cannot boast of the Lochlann wars.
225. You counted not the five thousand who with the son ⁴ of the Lochlainn's king were slain at Teamhair by Maoilsheachluinn of the legitimate stock.
226. Besides that, at Teamhair he fought four battles ⁵ which I have not mentioned, slaughtering the mail-clad warriors though he was not Cinneideach's son !
227. Maolsheachluinn did not seek ⁶ to ransom the captives of the Gaedhil held by them (Danes), but kept up the siege of Ath Cliath ⁷ till he got them back.
228. Then he issued the famous order ⁸ to all men, after checking lawlessness, for the establishing of the liberties of the ancients, and for the benefit of Eire's folk.
229. In his first year, Maolsheachluinn of the true descent conferred the benefits which should be attributed to him, though you give them as Southern Brian's.
230. What you think so wonderful in Brian, namely his seizing the kingship—foolish is your idea—makes you wrongly assign to him the period and the benefit of the true king's reign.
231. He won Carn Fordroma ⁹—fierce fray—over Tuath Mumhan. At Fearta Nimhe,¹⁰ at Magh Breagh he again crushed Brian.
232. If these two battles, which I rely on to answer you,¹¹ be a hidden thing for you, look at Dubh Da Leithe's book,¹² and they will no longer be a mystery for you.
233. You should not have compared Brian with Niall, passing over Maolsheachluinn. Well for Brian had he surpassed the latter—though he did dethrone him !
234. Maolsheachluinn was the longer king, had the better title to the land. Poets speak more of him, and injustice is less told of him.

é baó aicneac," "σο τοαοβαρι ταμαλλ οιτε · μοτ Δ ρί na τπόσαιρε : αν ομοε-
 ραοζαλ Δ οέ βί · νάρι μο-ταοβαρι é Δ αιοτο-πί, "Δ. Ο Τάλαϊς, R I.A. 23 G.
 23, p. 294, v. 1, 2, T.C.D. 1356, p. 266, v. 27. ¹² O'R. ; 4 M. 978.

235. Trí céad dailta do mMac Dé • i n-onóir Críóir do oil pé
cuid d'á teilro sibé heile • 'r a b'ar iar mbuaird n-aicéirge.
236. Ní fuaire éin-rí d'áicme b'riain • an scáin romhe ná na d'iaró
do laigheib cap tír oile • níor d'uis buain na d'buime.
237. Dá leanaó b'riain mar m'aoirde • loirg canóna san élaoine
aité-ríogaó do b'óic an b'reat • ar ríge d'orónta éraib'ead.
238. Tuacal Teac'tmar do d'aingnis • b'buime ar túr ar laigheib
i n-íoc a ingean san oil • d'á d'cuirte éas i meabail.
239. Do m'aité fionnac'ta me m'buian • an buair-ro go b'rác do d'ia
ceat'raea ríog go a pé roim • do ríol Tuacail ro d'obais.
240. An d'buime ó ráir'tear b'riain • mar glóir d'íomáoin tucaó
ciar
an t-ainm blaó'mannaé d'ar leam • ó buair laighean nár
d'uis-gean.
241. Ar b'riain d'á ríomh ní raéam • cluice ó scáir i scnoc
s'raann
ar m'náib na n'sall d'óir f'pí d'óir • iar mbuaird catá i
Sulcóir.
242. M'ar é ar an-élaic d'ib go ceart • ní m'peas ceart mar a neart
i n-d'iaró b'riain i' tú lair • tuas d'oir nár d'asrair.
243. Ar d'annmaris do éur fa d'ó • i m'ais loetá i scalsais d'ó
me m'ail Caille cró ríne • mac Críom'tainn i scómh-ríge.
244. Níor éirte d'uit ainm do ríog • cap a d'compáir féin 'r san
é ríor
a m'eo i' meirde an lo'gaó • amlaó d'á t'fop-molaó.
245. An d'á focail éugair lae • ar do lairíom féin go glan
d'á an t'peas focail ann d'na¹³ • i n'p'iaró Scotorum Scriba.
246. Mairis nár léig na trí focail • ó t'aoi i d'ean'gaib go
fop'ail
rua ru do éugair go s'ruinn • b'ar n'leil do d'abairt
d'f'éróim.
247. M'ar molta an beata do neac • d'ó'p'á d'naomh sibé do neac
do péas t'ura d'eanamh teinn • mar rin a beatair f'éróim.
248. Do eargain Ciapán Cluana • mac Críom'tainn cia nac cuata
im éirí a éille iar na éráó • i' d'é d'ainis a éugóal.
249. Do d'aró'beas d'ó Ciapán cáir • go n-a d'acail i na láimh
go d'aró fop'gáim d'ar leir air • 'r níor mair mac Críom-
táinn blaóain.

¹ "victory of penance," a common phrase. ² V. 85. ³ Maoilsheachluinn.

⁴ K. II. 254. ⁵ K. II. 256. ⁶ G.G. 968. "i' ann do m'onta s'raann mic
p'aradac accu .i. line móir do s'ail'peadac na n'sall i scnocánaib s'angail
macuairt ocup ríat croma ocup a lánna ar lár," etc., "s'raann," "horse
race," then any race, game. The hill of Sanglain (Singland), near Limerick,
may have been called Cnoc s'raann from this event. For another Cnoc
Grafann, cf. B. R. p. 89; Todd Lect. Vol. viii, pt. i., p. 76. ⁷ Near Limerick

235. Three hundred fosterlings of the Son of God, whom he reared in Christ's honour, are part of the evidence for him—to mention nothing else—and his holy death.¹
236. No king of Brian's race before him or after him ever got the tax from the Laighin or from anyone else. He had no right to exact the cess.
237. Had Brian, as you say,² honestly followed precedent, it was an evil counsel of his to dethrone a pious and crowned king.³
238. Tuathal Teachtmhar first imposed the cattle-cess on the Laighin⁴ to avenge his pure daughters, on whom the Laighin inflicted shameful death.
239. Before Brian, Fionnachta⁵ remitted the cattle-cess for ever for God's sake. Forty kings of Tuathal's race up to his time exacted it.
240. The "cattle-cess," applied to Brian, was given him in the west as a vain title. He deserved not the boastful name from getting the Laighin's cattle.
241. I will not go on to tell about Brian, the game which Cas' sons at Cnoc Grafann⁶ played on the women of the Gaill, their hands on each other's hands, after the victory of Sulchoit.⁷
242. If the true usurper be the king who measures his right by his might,⁸ take care lest, though you are on Brian's side, your arguments tell against him.
243. Seeing that Niall Caille twice slaughtered the Danmairg at Magh Iotha⁹ and Calgaigh, why do you compare Criomthann's son¹⁰ with Niall as an equally good king?
244. You should not have put your king's (Feidhlimidh) name beyond comparison with him (Niall)—for it was not justifiable.¹¹ Indulgence is worse the greater it is. Thus with your praise. (K).
245. As for the two words you quote from your Latin so neatly,¹² there is, however, the third one, the one after "Scotorum" *i.e.* Scriba!¹³
246. A pity you did not read the three words, since you are strong in languages,¹⁴ before putting so clearly Feilim above Niall!
247. If the life of him who afflicts the saints is to be praised, only so could you boast of Feilim's life!
248. Ciaran of Cluain¹⁵—all know it—cursed Criomhthann's son for injuring him in his church property.¹⁶ Thence his end came on him.
249. Blameless Ciaran, staff in hand, appeared to him, and struck him as he thought.¹⁷ Criomthann's son lived not a year after.

Junction. ⁸ V. 113. ⁹ A.U. 844. ¹⁰ Feidhlimidh. V. 120. ¹¹ 8 syll. omit féin? ¹² V. 121. ¹³ (?) MSS. *oonā*. ¹⁴ V. 37. ¹⁵ C. Mic Nois. ¹⁶ 4 M. 844. ¹⁷ C.C.C. § 2; Magh Rath, p. 327.

250. Do gheall Ciarran fóir naé biaó · neart féilim ó Cluain
a-mair
naé maic an fíadónaire ro · ne tuain Siolla Mo Dúibí.
251. A éart féin naé beanfaó díb · Flann 'r é ar Éirinn na rí
an gceitíto eáé 'r gur léis rí · bar leatrom le rí éóígró.
252. Doó an gá bearnais do ghearr · bile an mluige ir iongnáó
leam
airt-rí Éireann mar nár lamh · imbeirt cluice ar mair
aóair.
253. Tug tairé Donncaó Uí Ruairc · ó Énoc Saingil curó uá
éairc
ceao guró Dál gCair-re níor gáó · ir tug bradóán Éinn Coraó.
254. Ná cuir bréas ar fuil na miall · níor gáóbráó tuarparóal
mamh
ó doin-neac i nluir airc · baot don céao Táó a labhairc.
255. Tuarparóal Táóó Cáol-uirge · aicne dām-ra ir uirt-re
eic Uí Néill 'r a eacraó féin · do díúltacó dó mar
éairéim.
256. As ro a dēmhin uirt maó aíl · do luó lāga ir beas naé
nāir
ó do maoir airc doin-fear · cia ar baó cóir a com-
māoréamh.
257. Tar a brúair do gonaib arm · ir é Lióghairne por mairb
iar uirtim airc ar an mair · ir ann por díceann luóaró.
258. Ar laighnib ir ar Mumain · do iarr Cormac a éumail
'r do cuir go gceao doó éumine · bār airc i leir Lióghairne.
259. Léigtear lib an teacra¹⁴ breac · bar n-āmarar orm uá mbeac
ar laighnib dearbóca uirt · gur iarr Cormac a éaruit.
260. Cladair fearc fuirmitir lia · ní leanaó dē-rin níor ría
cuir an corp rin i gcuimne · put fáorpar tú Lióghairne.
261. Dearbáó oile ar luóá ronn · fo bār airc a-oubarc Soll
ir nár uirt gac ar gellair · mār fear mairb do dí-
céannair.
262. 'S é luairdeáda an gairgró gurrin · mār é tug ort-ra an
breit gill
tugair do luóaró lāga · ná heirg ann go han-uána.

¹ V. 122. ² V. 139. ³ A. O Conchobhair. ⁴ A. U. 1061; 4 M. 1061. ⁵ V. 139.
⁶ Son of Donnchadh Dearg mac Airt, i.e., an Cailleach. He was slain 1084
and his head brought to Limerick. A. U.; A. Tigh. ⁷ Ruaidhri, son of Aodh,
did this in 1088. ⁸ V. 148. This is the Northern version, viz. Brian sent
back the stipend (100 horses) together with 200 of his own for acceptance
by Tadhg, but Tadhg sent them all back again. Cf. 4 M. 1258, notes.
⁹ V. 166. ¹⁰ From the foreigners, infra 261 ¹¹ IV. 61. ¹² Lioghairne was of
the Laighin, IV. 62. ¹³ V. 166. ¹⁴ "Lawful, proper amount of" (?) cf. Laws.
Gloss. ¹⁵ Law-book (?). cf. comp. leabair RIA. 23 G 23, p. 265. v. 5.
¹⁶ Reference ?

250. Ciaran also foretold that Feilim's power would not exist eastward from Cluain. Is not this good evidence for Giolla Mo Dhuda's poem ? ¹
251. Does everyone believe, like you, that Flann, when king of Eire, could not have exacted his rights from you, and that you left unavenged ² your oppression by a mere provincial king ?
252. Aodh of the gapped spear ³ cut down the tree on Magh Adhair. ⁴ I think it strange that a High King dared not play chess ⁵ there !
253. He (Aodh) took Donnchadh O Ruairc's ⁶ relics from Cnoc Saingil on one of his hostings, ⁷ and took the salmon of Ceann Coradh, nor asked leave of Dal gCais !
254. Do not slander the Niall's race. They never took stipend from anyone in Art's Isle. It was foolish of the first Tadhg to mention such a thing.
255. As for the stipend sent by Tadhg Caoluisce, I know, and you know, how O Néill's steeds together with his own steeds were refused by Tadhg as trophies. ⁸
256. Here is a proof, if you want one, as to whom Art's death should be credited. It was almost an insult to Lugh to mention Art ⁹ (being killed by him).
257. "After all the sword-wounds Art received, ¹⁰ Lioghairne ¹¹ killed him. When he was dead on the field Lugh beheaded him."
258. From the Laighin, ¹² as well as from Mumha, did Cormac demand his Cumhal, ¹³ and he attributed—with all respect to your memory—Art's death to Lioghairne.
259. Let the code of judgments (?) ¹⁴ be read by you if you suspect me. It will show you that it was from the Laighin that Cormac asked Art's blood-price.
260. "Let a grave be dug, a stone be placed," I will go no further in it. Fix that book (?) ¹⁵ in your memory before you acquit Lioghairne of the charge.
261. Here is another proof against Lugh. Goll' said, ¹⁶ speaking of Art's death, "A shame to you are your fine promises, for it is a dead man thou beheadest."
262. As it is bright-armed Nuadha who brought on you (Mumha) your inferiority—which you attribute to Lugh—do not be too proud of it. ¹⁷

¹⁷ Meaning (?) "It was not, as you say, Lugh's killing of Art that made Cormac attack Mumha, but Cormac wished to get from Mumha the land which Mumha had got as blood-price for the death of Eidirscel. Nuadha by killing Eidirscel caused all the trouble." Cf. Ogygia III. c. 44 ; 4 M. 5090.

263. Cuiprò an d'án rin san céill . Eadatar tar diéill mac péil
'r nac rsgriobtar bairr d'aoim-éar air . aét do Samron nó
d'Éarcal.
264. Nearc do luḡa mār fearb suē . ro reat i ḡConall Céarnac
atá ra d'án-ra a-drim . aḡ ro an fáē fá bfoillrḡim.
265. Do bí Cu Raol mac Dáire . d'fuil Éireamóin san tárde
reac cia d'ib ba calma i ḡcat . i n-éin-ré ip Conall Céarnac.
266. Doo luḡ níorb iarrēa a n-urram . Cumall péin Fionn
mac Cumail
d'fuil Éireamóin iad ro reat . Orḡar donḡur ḡaoi-
buaibteac.
267. Cáit i raibe do luḡar . Cairbre Múrḡ leat mār cumain
ar luḡ Mac Con an uair ēuḡ . teicead i ḡcat Cinn Feabrac.
268. Art mac Cuinn Conn ip Cairbre . cuirream an uair-re ar
carrde
ní fiú dúinn ḡo nuarē 'nor . beic dā n-ionrād re ē-amor.
269. Ní d'earbarō ḡníom ḡcōir pé mār . mā tārō uam 'r ní labra
lām
neice nac ionrād ann-ro . aét freaḡra ēuḡar orē-ra.
270. Dā nḡurōinn Crioit mac Dé im d'án . san clonad ar fuat
nā ar ḡrād
a-déarēaoi beal-ēraibteac rum . mar dubrac muot-ra
romam.
271. Déanam Néirde díom ná cairḡ . ḡémarō feirdeirne tú a
tārōḡ
do léiḡfinn ē-ollamnadē d'aoib . 'r ní cairḡfinn fuirde ro
ēatōir.
272. Ní corhail mire ip Néirde . an cōir áirnear tú ro ēpérde
beic im aḡar d'í ní ḡar . biarō mo ēatōir san clonad.
273. Mō d'liḡfinn m'fiaca do díol . rearm cōra d'fuil mo mōḡ
nā an umla díom ro oleatē . doot aoir a tārōḡ doot oirdeatē.
274. Aḡ donhail ē'oir mā tām . níor leanao do loḡ im d'án
mire aḡ cumōac na cōra . turā aḡ díon na héaḡcōra.

RO CUALA.

¹ Not in V. ² Supra 261. ³ O'Dav. Gloss. 211. ⁴ K. II. 279 ; 4 M. 186.
⁵ V. 49 ⁶ Where ? " beal-ēraibteac " in XV. 2 is subsequent to this

263. That foolish poem of yours puts Hector above Achilles, Peleus' son,¹ though none is ever put above him except Samson and Hercules.
264. That seven times your Lugh's strength was in Conall Cearnach—though it be bitter to say—is stated in the poem I mention.² That is why I speak of it.
265. Curaoi son of Daire, certainly of Eireamhon's race, was contemporary—no doubt—with Conall Cearnach. See which of them was the braver! (K.).
266. You should not have sought for Lugh the respect due to Cumhall, Fionn his son,—both of Eireamhon's race—Oscar, and Aongus of the threatening spear.³
267. Where was your Lugh (Lamha) when Cairbre Musc, if you remember, routed Lughaidh Mac Con at Ceann Feabhrad? ⁴
268. I shall put off speaking of Art mac Cuinn, Conn and Cairbre. It is not worth while now to speak again of them to attack you.
269. I am not short of facts proper to mention.⁵ I did not wish to say much of things of which there is no occasion to speak. I merely wished to answer you.
270. Were I in my poem to ask of Christ the Son of God that I might not err through hate or love, I should be called "hypocritical," as you have been called already.⁶
271. Strive not to make me out a Neidhe ⁷—though you be a Ferceirtne! I shall let you keep your learning, and shall not try to sit in your chair.
272. I am not as Neidhe. Truth, which you give as one of the three things against me, is far from being so.⁸ My chair shall always be unbiassed.
273. It is more my duty to fulfil my obligations protecting the rights of my prince's race than to give you the deference which I owed to your age and your teaching.
274. If I do admit your learning, I follow not your example in my poem, I defending right, you defending the wrong.

¹ V. 187. ⁸ ní ṡar "not near," "not easy" cf. "ní ṡ. melad bád oíol
oí," Δ. Ó Dálaiṡ, R.I.A. 23 G. 20, p. 386, v. 1.

nÁ BROSO mise a mÍC DÁIRE. luḡAIÓ Ó CLÉIRIḡ cct.

- I. nÁ bpoṛo mise a mÍc DÁire • ḡo laocḡaró fóro fionn-
máige
atÁ aḡaró maó áil dAoió • caḡail o'Íb tÁil nó a oṛaṛaoir.
2. nÁ dúirḡ fearoA ar bṛala • ná báiró éana ar ḡcomṛama
oom bpoṛoúó i ḡceann² ó ḡCair • ir fearr m'poṛoúó ná
n-éaḡmar.
3. ḡrO cairtoeáé mé aḡ maicne éair • oob' aónár dúinn a
nṛeamair
tar éairt i oṛeaḡmáil Toṛma • ḡan teaéet o'eaṛmáin³
m'áṛoA.
4. Dá bṛpénh rin 'r ar oíob dúro-re • mo éarar mo com-foisḡe
ro dAn ḡur éobuḡ tura • táir oraió níor fóbrar-ra.
5. ní tearc file ir fearr dÁna • oon tAoió-re ar tí m'eaṛmána
ar fearr 'r ar mó ná mise • oá ró um éeann ná cúire-re.
6. Dóis liom fa ní oob'ura • ir tṛío tṛá o mÁura
ar bṛpaeḡa ní fáé beaḡḡa • tar éáé o'eaḡla é-mṛeamḡa.
7. Dáiró rém ḡaol ḡur ḡab mise • aḡ ro an tṛáé fá oṛuḡe-re
oom dAn ḡrO oo-buiróeáé ríó • ḡlár comuiróeáé⁶ oá ḡeluinṛir.
8. An tṛáé éuirpṛo aḡaró orc • oeiḡ-fíuró éóisḡrO éonnaéet
ḡuar a lonn-fuḡle i leir ríó • bṛeir rém⁷ éonnail be éuirpṛir.
9. Oon éioé iomuir fearṛaró oAoió • ḡomh ar nÁna ba
oíomaoín
mar bṛaon oá bṛearṛair ma bṛair⁸ • raor ó a oṛeaḡḡaíó
ní éarḡair.
10. Ool oo éaḡa ríú ní réiró • atÁro re hamṛir n-iméén
mar ḡaé follamnar ruair rionn • uaió i n-ollamnar
éiuonn.
11. ní féaéaró oot ór oÁna • ḡé oóis léo luéet combáóA
naé baḡḡal líó ar a loṛ • oá ḡelaoṛó ríó an reanéar.
12. DAn órOa ní hé oo ní • coṛnam ḡaé cúire a-oerṛí
ar taorḡa i oṛealais ná bṛionn • aét leabair aorOa
éiuonn.
13. Oo b'féroir oó re dAn nḡlar¹¹ • ḡibé file ar fearr eolar
fa élár Teamra ná oṛaṛar • oAn bṛeaḡó oo bṛeaḡnaéaó.

¹In Co. Limerick. ²"i ḡceann," "to" or "against," cf. "cuma liom cáé im é.," A. Ó Dálais, RIA. 23 D. 13, p. 27, v. 3; "cia ar ḡuar leo oo éur na ḡc.," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 7. ³Cf. "ar ron a eaṛmána air," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 4. ⁴L.'s mother was from Mumha. XVI. 40. ⁵XVI. 40. ⁶=com-buiróeáé (?). ⁷Cf. "na beir bṛeir re ḡaol oá ḡuire," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 M. 24, p. 17, v. 2. ⁸"Banna ri frais," etc., a common expression. ⁹Cf. X. 24. ¹⁰Eire. ¹¹Cf. "nó a rnar ar a rníom ní fuil . ir ḡlar an rníomh an rníomh roin," p. ón éáinte, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 185, v. 50

[Another answer to V., avoiding details of argumentation. I incline to infer from v. 5, etc. (in spite of v. 16) that no other Northern poet had yet joined in the contest.]

1. Provoke me not, O son of Daire, you and the heroes of the fair Maigh.¹ Whichever you wish you can have, mercy for Tal's race or reviling of it.
2. Awake no more our bitter feeling, nor belittle our great deeds, arousing me against ² the race of Cas. Better keep me away from it.
3. Though I am friendly to Cas' race, what you said against all justice in your contest with Torna would bring disgrace on me if I did not come in to defend my native country.³
4. Of their stock (i.e. Southern) ⁴—to which you belong—are my friends and kindred. Till you forced me in your poem, I never sought to put shame on you.
5. Not few are the poets and rimers in this part of the land ready to defend me, men greater and better than I, who will come to take up this cause.
6. Easier on you would be my reply than theirs. Therefore have I on behalf of the others chosen to make it—no need for you to quail with fear!—lest you be disgraced. (K).
7. Hence you can infer that it was regard for my kindred ⁵ that prompted me, when you hear ⁶ kindly language, though you will be angry at my poem.
8. When the goodly poets of the Connachta advance against you—terrible to you shall be their wrathful words—they will show (by the contrast) my mercifulness.⁷
9. From the heavy shower of learning, which they will pour forth on you,—my words will be a weak thing in comparison, a mere drop before the shower ⁸—from their tongues you shall not come unscathed.
10. To enter into dispute with them is no easy thing. For ages past they have been—like every other superiority which we have wrested from you—high-teachers of Eire.
11. They will not heed your professional adornment,⁹ though those in sympathy with you think that owing to it you need not fear even if you pervert facts.
12. It is not a gilded poem which best defends the cause you plead in the land of the Fair Ones,¹⁰ but rather the ancient books of Eire.
13. With a simple ¹¹ poem any poet, who had good knowledge of the land of Teamhair of the strifes, could refute any tricked-out poem.

14. Nā ḡaḇ ēuḡaḇ a ēaḡa • m'ēaḡnaē i ḡcḡuē caḡtana
 cḡom um laoiḇ ḡā ḡḡaḡaḡ oḡc • ḡo ḡaḇaḇ ḡaoiḇ a-ḡuḇaḡc.
 15. Mo ḡaḇaḇ iḡ cḡiḡo caḡḡa • iḡ iomḇa aḡ n-aḡḡ eaḡaḇna
 ḡomaḇ ēaḇoiḡ ḡḡeḡc aḡ mḇaḡiḡḡ¹ • iḡ ḡeḡc ḡon ēaḡcōiḡ aḡaḡn.
 16. Ii nāḡ ḡuit ḡoi ḡāḡ mḇḡeḡc-ne • uaēaḇ ḡoḡ aḡ curoiḡḡe
 iḡ coḡnaḡ na cāḡa i ḡḡuḡ • cḡḡnaḡ ḡaē ḡāḡa an ḡiomuḡ.
 17. ḡurḡeaē ḡōḡ ḡaḇ ḡeḡḡe ḡuit • ḡoḡ ḡān ḡoḡ ēiḡḡe oḡḇḡuic
 ō ḡḡuḡ ḡōiḇ ḡo ḡēiḡ m'āiḡne • an cōiḡ ḡēin ḡā ḡḡaḡaiḇḡe.
 18. Mo ḡeaḡaḡḡ nī cīoḇḡaḡn ḡuḡo • 'ḡ nī cūḡḡiḡn aēḡ maḡ
 ēaḡaḇo
 loēḡ iḡ leiḡ ḡāmaḇ nāḡa • aēḡ ḡeḡc oḡc ḡo ḡēaḇāna.

NĀ BROSO.

¹Cf. uses of ḡōiḡ in Voc. ²i.e., by me. v. 5 would suggest that no other Northern had yet joined in the contention. ³Other Northern poets.

14. Do not take to heart my friend my reproaches put in friendly form. If any severity be found in my poem I have warned you of it.
15. The reason you shall have my warning is that our sages are many, so that it were unlikely ¹ that you could defeat us, even if injustice were on our side.
16. It is no disgrace for you to yield to our judgment seeing the fewness of your helpers, and the (strong) defence of the truth here ² (in North). Pride brings down every cause.
17. Moreover you should thank your profession, your noble art of poetry, it from those who are waiting to attack you, ³ as I know, you get even fair-play.
18. I would not lecture you nor would I, except in friendly guise, charge you with your faults, even if I were your foe, but would speak to you in a gentle way.

Α ΛΥΓΑΙΟ ΛΑΒΡΑΜ ΣΟ ΣΕΙΜ. ΤΑΟΥΣ ΜΕΤΩΔΙΕ ΕΕΤ.

1. Α ΛΥΓΑΙΟ ΛΑΒΡΑΜ ΣΟ ΡΕΙΜ · ΝΑ ΒΙΟΜ ΣΟ ΤΡΕΑΝ ΑΡ ΤΟΙΒΕΙΜ
ΕΥΙΡ ΙΝΒΕΑΘΣΤΑ ΝΑΡΥ ΠΕΡΟΜ ΘΟΥΒ · ΘΕΙΛΒ Μ'ΙΜΘΕΑΡΣΤΑ ΣΑΝ
ΡΑΕΥΙΜ.
2. ΒΕΙΤ ΘΑΜ-ΡΑ ΜΑΡ ΕΑΘ ΑΡ ΑΙΛ · ΕΡΕΑΘ ΒΑΡ ΣΟΡ ΑΡ ΕΙΟΙΜΝ
ΡΙΟΣ-ΤΑΙΛ
ΟΡΕΑΜ ΟΡΕΑΕ-ΡΟ-ΕΑΟΙΝ ΤΟΣΤΑ Ι ΟΥΤΡΕΑΡ · ΝΕΑΜ-ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ ΟΡΡΑ
ΙΡ ΟΙΡΕΑΡ.
3. ΣΑΕ ΑΡ ΤΑΣΡΑΘ ΡΕ ΤΟΡΝΑ · ΙΡ ΜΙΡΕ Ι ΜΟΘ ΑΣΑΙΜΑ
ΘΟ ΛΑΒΑΙΡ ΑΡ ΛΑΒΡΑΘ ΑΝΝ · ΜΑΡ ΑΘΝΑΘ Ε'ΡΑΛΑΘ ΟΡΑΜ.
4. ΣΑΕ ΝΙ ΤΑ Ν-ΕΑΒΑΡΤ ΑΝΝ-ΡΙΝ · ΒΡΕΑΣΝΙΥΣΤΕΑΡ Ε ΜΑΡ ΕΙΟΙΡ
ΕΙΘ ΝΑΕ ΛΕΙΣΙΘ ΛΙΝΝ ΑΡ ΡΕΟΛ · ΜΥΝΑΒ ΕΙΟΙΡ ΙΝΝ Θ'ΑΙΤΕΕΘ.
5. ΟΙΕ ΙΕΑΜ ΘΟ ΛΕΙΤ ΜΟΣΑ Ι-ΜΥΙΣ · ΤΡΟΜ-ΣΙΟΡ ΤΟΡΝΑ ΙΡ ΝΕΙΛ
ΝΕΑΡΤΗΑΙΡ
ΘΟΝ ΕΑΝ-ΟΙΕ ΜΥΝΑ ΒΡΕΑΣΑΙΜΝ · Α Ν-ΕΑΒΑΡΤ ΝΙ ΑΙΒΕΑΡΑΙΜΝ.
6. ΕΙΡΤ-ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΑΡ ΕΥΙΘ ΤΑ ΡΟΕΛΑΙΒ · ΤΥΣΑΡ ΣΑΝ ΤΑΟΜ³ ΤΡΕΑΝ-
ΘΟΙΒΑΘ
ΘΟ ΘΕΙΣ-ΤΕΙΡΘ ΝΑ ΣΡΑΘΒ ΥΜ ΕΟΡΕ · ΡΑ ΝΕΙΜ-ΕΙΡΘ Θ'ΑΟΝ Α
Ν-ΕΑΒΑΡΤ.
7. ΣΑΝ ΕΕΙΘ-ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΕΑΝΑΙΜ ΤΑΟΙΒ · ΝΙΟΡ ΕΡΜΑΙΛΑΡ ΤΡΟΜ ΝΑ ΤΑΤΑΟΙΡ
ΑΕΤ ΤΑΣΡΑ ΘΟΝ ΤΑΘΒ Ι ΒΡΥΡ · ΣΑΝ ΕΙΛΑΘΝ Ν-ΑΣΡΑ ΤΑΡ ΡΕΟΙΡ.
8. ΑΝ ΡΙΥΕΑΘ ΘΟ ΡΙΥΕΑΘ ΛΙΒ · ΙΕΜ ΕΕΙΘ-ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΘΟ ΕΙΛΙΜΡΙΝ
ΕΙΘΘ Α ΒΡΥΙΛ Θ'ΥΑΙΛ ΡΑΝ ΡΙΥΕΑΘ · ΡΥΑΙΛ ΝΑΕ ΜΥΙΡ ΘΟ
ΜΙΝΙΥΕΑΘ.
9. ΤΑΘΒ ΡΕ ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΑΡ ΛΑΒΡΑΘ ΙΕΑΜ · ΝΙΟΡ ΑΝΑΙΡ ΑΝΒΑ ΑΝ ΤΙΕΑΙΛ
ΝΙ ΡΥΑΙΡ ΣΡΑΘ ΝΑ ΕΑΣΤΑ Τ'ΡΟΡ · ΣΑΝ ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ Α ΙΑΝ ΝΑΡ ΛΑΒΡΑΡ.
10. ΘΟΜ ΘΙΟΝ ΑΡ ΘΙΑΜΡΑΙΒ Ε-ΕΑΣΝΑ · ΒΑΡΡ ΘΟ ΕΥΡ ΙΕΜ ΕΕΙΘ-ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ
ΘΟ ΡΕΙΡ ΜΑΡ ΡΑΙΝΙΣ Α ΙΕΑΡ · ΙΡ ΕΕΙΜ ΘΟ-ΑΙΝΙΣ ΘΟΤ ΑΙΣΝΕΑΡ.
11. ΙΙ ΡΑΟΙΛΙΜ ΙΟΝΑ ΡΟΕΑΡ · ΘΟΝ ΤΑΙΛ ΤΑΟΙ ΘΟ ΕΟΤΟΕΑΘ
ΒΙΟΘ ΝΑΕ ΕΑΙΛ ΕΑΣΝΑ ΟΡΑΙΒ · ΑΝ ΒΑΡΡ ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΡΥΑΡΟΒΑΙΡ.⁴
12. ΒΕΑΝΤΑΡ ΤΕΙΜΤΕ Α ΤΑΘΒΑΙΒ ΕΙΘΕ · ΡΕΙΜ ΒΥΑΛΑΘ ΝΑ ΒΙ ΑΣ ΤΟΒΑΕ⁶
ΝΙΟΡ ΜΟ ΘΟΜ ΛΑΒΡΑ Α ΛΥΓΑΙΟ · ΡΟ⁷ ΤΑΡΒΑ Θ ΝΑΕ ΤΑΡΕΥΒΑΙΡ.⁸
13. ΙΡ ΕΑΘ ΒΑΘ ΡΕΑΡΡ ΙΕΑΜ-ΡΑ Α ΛΥΣ · ΘΟΝ ΤΑ ΡΙΟΝΝ-ΕΡΑΟΙΒ Α
ΗΕΑΝ-ΘΥΝ
Θ'ΕΑΣΤΑ ΝΑΕ ΒΑΝΝ ΒΥΘ ΡΟΙΡΥ ΡΟΙΝ · ΣΑΝ ΒΑΡΡ ΦΡΕΑΣΡΑ ΟΙΡΝ
Θ'ΙΑΡΡΑΙΘ.

¹ VII. 6. ² i.e., I am on the defensive. ³ "ΤΑΟΜ," "fit," then in general "feeling," "act," cf. XV. 49; also "ΡΟΙΡ Α ΜΑΟΙΡ ΜΟ ΜΙΟ-ΕΑΟΜΑ," "ΤΑΟΜ ΟΙΥΛΤΑ ΘΙ ΝΙ ΘΙΛΙΣ," Δ. Θ ΤΑΙΛΙΣ, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 148, v. 7; p. 265, v. 1. ⁴ "ΘΟ-ΣΕΙΒΙΜ," constantly "compose," cf. "ΘΟ ΣΕΑΒΑΜ ΘΟΘ ΣΗΥΙΡ ΝΕΑΜ-ΣΑΡΣ · ΡΡΕΙΘ ΜΟΙΤΑ ΝΑΕ ΡΥΑΙΡ ΡΙΛΕ," Ρ. ΘΝ ΕΑΙΝΤΕ, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 11. ⁵ Vid. Var. Lect. ⁶ "ΤΟΙΒΣΙΜ," "ΤΟΒΣΑΙΜ," (1) I exact from (2) I cause, cf. Gadelica, I. 72. ⁷ ΡΟ is noun. ⁸ Cf. "ΤΑΙΡΕΑΜΑΡ ΘΟΝ ΤΟΙΡΕΙΟΡ ΕΕΑΘΝΑ," RIA. 23 H. 25, p. 45, v. 21.

[This poem is variously placed in the MSS. v. 7 shows it to be after V. ; v. 9 shows it to be after VI. ; v. 30 seems to be referred to in IX. 6 ; v. 23 would incline one to put it after O'Donnell's or McArthur's poems, but as it (cf. vv. 1, 20-21) answers VII. I have put it here.]

1. Let us speak calmly, O Lughaidh, and not be set on abusing each other. The sight of my being wrongfully abused would be a cause of fear that would not serve you.¹
2. If it be I on whom you wish to put it (abuse), why attack the race of princely Tal? It would befit you to refrain from abusing that fair-faced race, choicest in combat.
3. It was I who in regular form spoke all the argument against Torna—if that be what rouses your ire against me.
4. Let all that I then said be challenged if possible. Why do you not leave our course unchecked if you cannot refute us?
5. I thought that the bitter words spoken out there by Torna and strong Niall were an insult to Leath Mogha. Had I not had regard to that insult² I would not have spoken as I have done.
6. I gave without any exaggerated wild invention,³ a fair reply to some of his words. What I said of the genealogical histories about Corc need have hurt no one.
7. In my first answer I sought neither to revile nor reproach, but merely to plead for my country here, without partiality of argument in violation of fact.
8. As for the indignation with which you boiled at receiving my first reply, to subdue the arrogance you show in your indignation would be almost to tame the sea.
9. You were not—so terrible is your zeal—satisfied with answering what I said. Neither love nor fear could restrain you from answering much which I did not say.
10. The result of your contention is that I shall defend myself against your recondite learning, and complete my first answer as the necessity has arisen.
11. I do not think that the last answer you have given,⁴ though learning fails you not—is any advantage for the case you are defending.⁵
12. Sparks are struck from the sides of rocks. By striking me do not draw⁶ forth, O Lughaidh, any more of my speech. Very⁷ lucky for you that you have not got⁸ more.
13. What I should like best, O Lughaidh, for both fair branches of the one stock is that you ask from me no other answer, lest it be not a pleasant one.

14. Ssur sro ead munab áil liú · do fíor-*ta*taoir fíl n^éibir
ní trát cóir dá noíultad d^{am} · ní oíultad d^{oib} tréo d^ocar.¹
15. Freastra t^{rom} dá t^{ar}ole² rⁱⁿⁿ · maic liom a fíor as
Éirinn
so b^{ro}gna pé d^{om} fa d^{eo}ir · nac dom éol é aét dom
am^h-d^{eo}in.
16. Níor éionn^rgnar ta^{ta}oir clann s^cuinn · ní fuil um f^reastra
no^muinn
aét ní neam^h-náir don dá fuil · aét sro fearb^h-rá^o í eaduib.
17. Féad^h-ra a lu^gar^o do leat éuinn · muna lóir ar páir ead^uinn
ní trát^h dáir b^reastra^h-ne r^ór · dáib^h ir ead^hlaige é^o-iom^hóir.
18. Aic^hn^o d^{am} ir so nua a^o-noir · na s^{ao}i lé n^h-ia^hr^hé^oi m^h'amor
fíor a r^hia^ht^há a^h a r^há^h r^{im} · i t^hrá^h a n^h-ia^hr^hé^oi ir aic^hn^o.
19. An s^{ce}in bíar cóir ar mo éú · ní d^ois liom ead^h dom é^ola^hé^oú^o
ní taob^h re tolla^hr^hé^o éuinn³ · comair^hse ar don ní ia^hr^hiam.
20. Ná ma^oir^o é^o-iom^had um a^gar^o · ná a n^h-o^hr^hé^oice i n^h-eal^had^hain
an cóir dom éad^h ó é^ora^h · ní d^ois⁵ d^h'aon ar n^h-a^gall^hma.
21. Fearr uat^hó ní holc linne · i b^{ro}é^oir na fírinne
ionáir iolair na ha^gar^o · re cionáir do é^oanam^hain.
22. Léis^head^h r^{ao}ite ar r^{on} an é^oir^h · liom do f^reastra san
fí^hé^oir^h
s^{eo}all m^h'eas^hna^hma ní fí^hse · um é^oann^h-b^osa ar é^ou^oir^h.
23. Ní d^oir do d^his^hfinn a rá^o · dá n^hgo^hinn am^h ba^o d^hna^h
aét e^oir dáir la^hair dáir leam · nac ca^hair éu^hit a no^hé^oall.
24. An c^oir éu^hr^hro dá t^hea^hg^hé^oib · bíar^o a fíor as é^hreann^hé^oib
s^oma^o fá^hta d^ois^h-r^{ion}⁷ d^{am} · tré ne^hm^h-fíor s^{eo}at^h a s^{eo}ant^har.
25. Ní ar r^há^h r^hé^hme mo d^hna · téis^hm d^h'ia^hr^har ead^hána
bí^oó⁸ dá éad^h r^{oi}-neam^h-é^oir⁹ r^uinn · é^odon da^his^h-f^{eo}an^hé^oir
dá no^hear^huinn.
26. D^oimur do lá^o nar leic^h-ne · r^{ao}b^h ad^har a am^hn^his^hte
a rá^o so s^{eo}m^hda^his^hfinn e^oar^h · dá^h s^{eo}ad^h u^hg^hoir^h-é^hm¹¹ é^hre^had^h.

¹ Tré^o d^ocar in poem by T. McÓ^hir, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 185, v. 10, means "through your ill-plight," but this does not seem to suit here. For "churlish-ness," etc. cf. "Rí nar éu^hir o. ar éu^hir," Δ. Ó Dá^hla^hs, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 236, v. 5. ² "Approach," "begin," (?) cf. "an éú léir é^his^hleap s^{eo}at^h éú^hit," Δ. Ó Dá^hla^hs, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 238, v. 7; "m^hic é^oir^him u^hir oile . leir^hse a^ome ir u^hir^hse: ar t^had^hall ran leir^hse linn . meir^hoe m^h'anam dá n^h-a^hé^him," Δ. Ó Dá^hla^hs, TCD. H. 4, 4, p. 88, v. 7. ³ (?) Ruinn MSS. cf. Var. Lect. For "tolla^hr^hé^o," cf. Contrib. sub. "airbe," and "d^{am} ní taob^h re t.," Δ. Ó Dá^hla^hs, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 287, v. 14. ⁴ VII. 5, 8, 10. ⁵ Cf. Var. Lect. For this use of d^ois^h cf. "ní mó ir é^hre r^oib so r^{oi}is^h . b^{ar} no. do éúle c^ogar^o," T. McÓ^hir, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 22, v. 2; nac ba^o o. a^oir^hear dá fuil," *ibid.*, p. 30, v. 44; o^hb^{eo}ir^his^h nac o. i t^hroir^h," *id.*, RIA. 23 L. 37, p. 206, v. 42; also *infra* XXX. 34. ⁶ VII. 9. ⁷ Cf. "s^{eo}ad^h t^hub^had dá no^hb^hair me . o^har é^oir^his^hair f^hair na féine: s^{eo}lar^o r^{ion} i no^hair t^hub^hair . do fíol é^hu^ham ar b^{ar}am^hail," T. McÓ^hir, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 45. ⁸ Or read "bí,"

14. Yet, if you will not cease reviling Eibhear's seed, it is not right that they (your fellows) should refuse me fair play. I will not refuse it to them owing to your churlishness.¹
15. If I give² you a severe answer I wish all Eire to know—so that it may serve me in the end—that it was not willingly I gave it but unwillingly.
16. I did not begin the abuse of Leath Cuinn. There is nothing in my answer hitherto except what need shame neither race, though it may not please you.
17. Have regard for Leath Cuinn, O Lughaidh, if you think that those who sprang from our side are a poor set. There is no failing of matter in our answer yet, while your history is a cause of nervousness to them (the North).
18. I know—again I say it—the shafts with which you would attack me. In the hour of attack too I know the way to shield myself so as to protect myself from them.
19. As long as justice is behind me, I think it unlikely that anyone can defeat me. I trust in no broken fence.³ I ask quarter from no man.
20. Boast not your hosts⁴ against me, nor their splendour of knowledge. As justice is on my side, to contend with me is not easy⁵ for any man.
21. Better are a few men with truth on their side—I at least prefer this—than many praising evil in opposition to truth.
22. I will let wise folk answer me in defence of truth, and will not hinder them. You shall not overcome my dexterity in using my bow drawn taut against a brawler.
23. Not of you should I be justified in using that word ("brawler"). It would be a shame for me did I so use it, but the zeal of some of your supporters is, I think, no advantage to you.
24. All the men of Eire shall know that the shower they (the Northerners) will pour forth from their tongues⁶ will bring fair-weather⁷ for me, owing to the unfairness of their speech.
25. Not on account of our poets' dignity do I ask for consideration. Let⁸ both sides treat me most ungently⁹ if I pervert true history.
26. As for your charging me with pride¹⁰ foolish is the reason for so calling me, namely because I said I would defend the truth. The man who has no authority in his side¹¹ must be satisfied with facts (?).

"be therefore most," etc. ⁹ Cf. "neamh-éadair an maic mé maoróeasáin . uo ríadair peandáir ríadair-íadair," p. ón éadair, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 5.
¹⁰ VII. 16. ¹¹ Cf. "uo óán éadair ir áin-uíadair," p. ón éadair, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 185, v. 58.

27. Níom díompaic me Dia a bfuide . gíó ead aighead don-ouine
um dáil cáma 'r dom éuinſ-re . dána ar éair a ſcornaim-re.
28. Níom díultadac ſibé beap . dom uaim i mbáir nó i mbáit-
peap
um éeann na córa éanair . níom óna me m'earcair.
29. Ó nac o'fuaic do élanais Cair . do éasair tur a ar éasrair
aict do éadib connaitbe ó ſCuinn . comairſe óadib ní éiúit-
fainn.
30. Ní héasóir o'fior do ſarma . cumad ceipte bar n-aéaróa.
gíó ead ná cumadaiſ aict ceapt . lean a upradl dom oioeact.
31. Suidim Cúior nair éana mé . ar ſrád éaic reac a éeile
glóir rém linn bad díombuair óam . díombuain rinn ar an
raoſal.

a luſair.

27. I am not contemptuous, thank God—whatever anyone think—of truth or of my duty. Two things which are just are what I defend (?).
28. I incline not to refuse anyone who is yoked with me in love or kinship concerning the interests of the truth which they uphold. I am not spiritless in face of my foe.
29. Since it is not in hatred of Cas' race, but in love of Conn's that you have so argued, I shall not refuse you mercy.
30. It is not unjust for one of your calling to uphold the right claims of your fatherland. Yet, defend merely their right claims. Follow, to that extent at least, what I teach you. (K).
31. I pray Christ that, in partiality, I may never say a word that would be a shame for me. A short time are we in this world.

an gclunne mé a mhic Dáire. luḡaíð ó éileirig cct.

1. An gclunne mé a mhic Dáire • eirð araili dár n-uráin-ne
ro conclann an tann-ra ó tám • rann-ra i gcomhétrom do
comhráð.
2. Dámbeir nár conclann cuḡaíð • leat féin inn doct ionnmáil
téir mar uairle d'fine Cuinn • nac tlighe an uair-re ar
n-urruim.
3. Ór d'fiadaib¹ airo-ríog Muhan • do ríḡ éireann umluḡað
mar tá an t-ainm le féin b'feabail • a nḡairm féin ḡá
b'píleadaib.
4. ḡo b'earcar cpióc ar ḡcainḡne • ná marpéar ar n-urruim-ne
ar connaibhe ná ar ḡaol ḡar • comairḡe ar don ní iarrab.
5. Ní tuigim ḡo doctocfáð rum • ar máoiríor d'oroedáct oram
'r nac ur-dubad é ar m'fíor • mé d'umluḡað doct oríor.
6. Má fuarar uait dotham duit • aiceáct ip mé i n-doir
foctulic⁵
ḡo docturra a cara ar an ḡearc • ní raḡa m'umla ar é-aiceáct
7. Nó ḡur labhair ar leit Cuinn • do biað dá n-éirḡeáð
eadoirum⁶
uirum i n-ar noáin-ne deir • náire dá doctulinn tremeir.⁷
8. Má dubair mar deire ro laor • ní ar a doctocfáð bap
doctáoir
áct ḡlór féin ḡo n-annra orc • ní léir dām-ra ḡo noubair.
9. Sa n-aighear do b'éigean dain • má tá nac b'fionntaoi ar
b'roḡar
cuir dár b'roḡair-ne ro fear • duit mo comairle ar éairdear.
10. Ní dearnad leat-ra áct b'riḡ beaḡ • dom b'riacraib bíor nar
tuillreao
aḡ cora ar ḡcomairle ar air • ro-doiḡe⁸ an roḡa ruḡair.
11. Tré ḡráð ó nac ḡabéar lat • comairle do cur orat
ar bap ḡailḡ ó nac cuiream corḡ⁹ • rḡuiream a tarḡ doo
deḡarḡ.
12. ḡḡur doct aighear munab áil • ar m'impríe nó ar m'fupáil
cpiáo uma n-abra tré píoc • réao nac dotha léo eirpíot.
13. A-dearḡaoi nac dearnair trom • ar píol ḡCuinn coirḡear
forlonn
'r do dān d'fiadāin ic aḡaíð • náir an iarrarō anaḡail.

¹ Cf. "ḡo d'fiadaib teáct tairra," C. McDáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 30. ² L. Foyle. ³ VIII. 29. ⁴ VIII. 30. ⁵ "foctac," early grade of poet. M. and C. ii., 217. ⁶ Cf. "do rala etorru," Vis. McCongl. (note). ⁷ "Tremeir," 3 Sg. cf. "d'éir cara ro dāin-ḡréire deir. lán-léire tana t," C. Mc An Dáire, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 22. ⁸ Noun or Compar. of "doiḡ," used as pos. ⁹ 8 syll. omit "bap"? ¹⁰ VIII. 30. ¹¹ VIII. 16.

[Answer to VIII].

1. Do you hear me, son of Daire? Pay heed a little to my poem.
Since I am contending with you now, give me a fair share of your attention.
2. Were it the case that you thought the contest unworthy of you—we poets like yourself contending with you—since nobles of Conn's race advance against you, should you not now respect us?
3. As it is the duty ¹ of the princes of Mumha to bow before the king of Eire—for that title (K. of E.) belongs to the warrior band of the Feabhal ²—their poets too have *their* title. (K).
4. Till the issue of our dispute be settled ask not submission from us. Neither for love nor for close kinship will I ask quarter from anyone.³
5. I do not think I could agree with the teaching which you boastfully propose ⁴ to give me, nor that it would not be a blot on my (fame for) wisdom to submit to your teaching.
6. Even if I, when a novice,⁵ got—I deny it not—lessons from you, my deference shall not be given to your teaching, my friend, till you descend to the level of truth.
7. Until you spoke against Conn's Half there would have been—had a dispute arisen between us ⁶—respect shown you in my poems, and I should have felt shame had I deserved shame owing to my poem.⁷
8. If, as you say in your poem, I have said aught whence you may be shamed—and not gentle words full of affection for you!—I cannot see that I did.
9. In the dispute which I had to undertake, though there may be some points in which you do not understand my words, you knew that some of my words were my advice given you in all friendship.
10. You made little account of my words though they did not deserve such treatment. In rejecting my advice you have taken a course that will prove painful ⁸ for you!
11. As you will not let advice be given you in love, and as we cannot check your bitterness,⁹ let us at least have done with your teaching.¹⁰
12. As you will not cease disputing either at my request or my command, why do you, in your rage, say things which in your instability you then deny having said?
13. You say you did not revile ¹¹ Conn's race which checks oppression, though your own poem proves it against you! Such an asking of quarter is a shame.

14. Dealbтар lib mar leigear air . o'eir ar loitir dár laocparó
 roinn milre go¹ seiréactaib enir . nó féantar lib-re ar loitir.
15. Már o'iarparó ríe go nua noir . féantar tú an tcom do
 rónair
 ríor ar a fánail do géan . dom óion o'falaró a n-aibéar.
16. Gémaró deapbta as cáe a éion . air féin dá mbeir na
 breictiom
 níor fáir fan naom-éruinne neac . nac raorparóe i scáir
 coirceac.
17. Ó nac tiz mar an dá rann . san beir diomóac dá n-dearparam
 sibé trác beapair ar mbreac . leanaó cáe ar an scoirceac.
18. Níor féatar 'r do féar tura . san teagmáil ran teapra-ra
 acé t-úro ar fáil t-anna . uúib i n-anáir t-ealaóna.
19. Sibé cúir do éuaró i bparó . 'r nac ruair a freasra roimó
 dá n-éiróe o'ib Cuinn mar cáe . níor buing not éisre
 t-iomparó.
20. Créar tug ar do fréim roimóib . san véanam a n-dearparóair
 'r nac ainbdear fá íb táil tug . bair n-aighear dáib do
 deapmaró.
21. Dá n-eapraín do úligreacó uul . pean-íllac lias leannán
 Mumán
 an tucg rin táir ar torma . na dán a fír m'asallma.
22. Do bpaíra troma ar torma . uob' eadail a n-ionnamla
 as luéc eagna dá ráo rinn . do freasra um láir³ dá
 léisinn.
23. A-deapraoi ar maic a-muóa . m'fáil neir a-nalluna
 'r nac fuiginn acé a bpaíra rinn . a scuinim uaid dá
 n-éiróinn.
24. Sibé freasra ruairar daóib . ní do seall⁴ ar glóir diomóam
 friit uaim 'r ní do fúir roéair . uúin ná o'uail a healaóam.
25. Dá n-iarpáir ar sac doin-fear . díol tar ceann a comaoineacó
 ní cúir éagcáir dam-ra a díol . annra ir éadóil ar n-aip-
 ríog.⁵
26. Mar ioc i n-aic an trocáir . téro a tceapaim o'ealaóam
 an méir-re díom ó oleasair . bíor ar m'éisre a áiteasacó.

¹ Or "dá" (?). ² Cf. Contention of mac lias and mac coire, ZC. viii. 218. ³ Cf. XIV. 7; XXIII. 22; also "fa láir níor léis a éiomra," "undefended," T. McOaire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 26; "ceacé le nim tnuir dom éimheacó . fa úir lib ní léisimne," "unpunished," F. ón Cainte, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 20. ⁴ Cf. "do glóir dom annuim," Táin bó fraoicé, RIA. Proc. 1870, p. 150, l. 19; also i ng. je, because of, P. H.,

14. You make up as a cure, after wounding our heroes, some honied verses—and some more wounds ! ¹ or you deny having wounded them at all !
15. If it be to seek peace anew that you deny the wounds you have inflicted, I too will make peace in the same way, defending myself by my words against your bitter attack.
16. Though a man's crime were proved home in the sight of all men, yet, if he were to be his own judge, never in the holy world was there a guilty man who would not be acquitted !
17. Since I cannot agree to both sides without incurring anger for what I should have done, whenever I give my judgment let everyone punish the offender.
18. I could not—though you could—have avoided this dispute, except for your anxiety to win a name on the score of your learning.
19. If you believe Leath Cuinn when it makes statements that have been public, and have never, till your time, been questioned, the making of such statements is no insult to your profession.
20. Why was it that your race before you never acted as you, since, I am sure, it was not ignorance about Tal's race that made them omit all that you say ?
21. To defend it (Tal's race) would have been the right of old Mac Liag, ² the darling of Mumha. Did *he* revile Torna in his poem, my friend who arguest against me ?
22. As for your harsh words of Torna, I fear that similar ones would be addressed to me by learned folk if I left your answer unchallenged. ³
23. You say that my seeking for facts in far antiquity was wasted energy, just as though I should have got the information I have got had I listened to you !
24. Any answer I made you I made not for the sake of foolish glory, ⁴ nor to seek profit for myself, nor from pride of learning.
25. If every man must repay the benefits he has received it is just that I requite the love and benefits of my chiefs. ⁵
26. As requital of these benefits is the lore I set forth. Since that is due from me, let the stating of it be set to the account of my professional duty.

and modern "maṛ ḡeall aṛ." ⁵ "Δῖτο-πί," of chieftain, cf. RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 23 ; G. 24, p. 34, v. 6.

27. Ili a sepuē so macāo nomaiō · tuḡ an feaō naē puapobair
 to fpeaspa ó cāc a cāpa · ḡérō fáē eazla ē-ealaōa.
 28. Tnúē mé oṭárrētur ¹ to fōcār · tuḡ oóib' r ní oíot ealaēaō
 ná eazna oon leit por lig · to fpeaspa um leit mar léigro.
 29. ḡibé oíob nar labair liom · basāal opm-ra má aicnionn
 ardoi ar oṭréigē i-né nó a-nioō · ní léigfe mé to mdoiōeam.
 30. Diaō an cōir mar arm aige · teacēt um ēroto ir uraōe
 feirpōe a ppairnn oā bpaḡa fear · a paḡa airm i n-éigean.

an ḡclume.

¹ oṭárrētur, Pret. Pass, but possibly also 1 Sg. of Pret., cf. Introd.

27. It was not fear lest their power might yield to yours (?) that caused the long period in which you got no answer from anyone, however terrible you think your wisdom !
28. It was jealousy of the rewards which I have got,¹ that caused them not to answer. It was not lack of lore, nor was it learning that kept them away so that they leave your reply unanswered.
29. If any of these, who have not **spoken** for me, see me in danger, then—though I am unsupported yesterday and to-day—he will not let me be crowed over by you.
30. Truth will be his weapon. That makes it the easier to fight for me. Better is a man's fight if he has the better weapon.

[Answer to VII. v. 22 implies that no Southern had yet helped Tadhg.]

1. Spare not your speech, O Lughaidh. Give free rein to your wrath. Though your spitefulness is uncalled for,¹ give full course to your tongue.
2. Sleep on your wisdom-wattles.² Search the abyss of lore. Stick to the side you study (?).³ Regard not kith or friendship.
3. Tame not thy ire⁴ against us. Disclose crimes and feuds. Read privilege-books.⁵ Defend the possessions of the free tribes.
4. Do the best you can for yourself, since you have destroyed at its root all that you have been able to say is thought among us to be shallow enough.⁶
5. Try not to persuade people like me of your pretended kindness.⁷ Defend not your great crimes. I know your disposition.
6. O Lughaidh, though you have ties⁸ with us, Eibhear's great race seeks not cover beneath the shield of your kinship, nor depends on your clemency.
7. I pardon you—may God, too, pardon you!—for your words that shall be proved false. The help you gave to Conn's race has not awakened strife between them and us.
8. Keep⁹ to the true history of your stock. Search your battle-lists. One should not respect degenerate races. Let the glory of the Gaedheal be ever defended.
9. Belittle, as far as you can, the benefits conferred by Eibhear's race. Strive ever to harm them. Cease not from that.¹⁰ Do not stop at the very dregs of your efforts.
10. Exaggerate in your boasting—with truth or without it—the pride and triumph of Conn's race, their greater services, the blessings of their land.
11. Whether for money or from partiality, to stand upon an unjust cause is a hard thing, O son of Mac Con, and it is a sin too!
12. Yet, though you do your best, you shall not be able to put any of those, who have come over the sea, above Eibhear's race in Eire.
13. To the race of great Eoghan who revere an oath,¹¹ to the race of Cormac Cas, son of Oilioll—the chiefs of Mile's race, belongs the honour-circuit of Eire.

RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 7; "ná fill raobair do meáda . ó neac d'uaireib é-oipeáda," *U. mCÓadine*, Trans. Gael. Soc. 1808, p. 26, l. 137; Wind. Wört.

¹¹ *minn* MSS. cf. "bar blierdeasrom náir báir minn," *e. mCÓadine*, RIA. 23 M. 24, p. 27, v. 16; "Δ πίοξ-δυνεαδ náir máir (MS. cas) minn," *Δ. Ó* *Óálairg*, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 280, v. 9. ¹² Faulty rime.

14. Δ ζκομπεαρτα ιρ cuiinneac linn · leo an urruinn ar fearr
o'Éirinn
meaptar iao tñá ar a otreabaið · 'r a-tá riato na rinreapab.
15. Oo tuirmeað uacá roir¹ · mār² bapir é ar a n-oirniðoin
o'uaipre a zcniro dā zcpaoib fém · naomh ip filro ip
píreín.
16. Blapoa a píoč fearb a zcozao · uacá tñá ní țearpaoar
oirbeparc³ zairzið azur zlóir · toirbeparc airzið ip onóir.
17. Domaim zup maic maicne Cuinn · níor mīroe iao dā
n-abruinn
oo muin a fém-féilbe rin · ar bpuil n-Éibir-ne uairuib.
18. Mí rciúram le rtaoil zcompiáro · bpeas ná oil ná
iomarbdáro ·
mo flán pa conpáro ó zCuinn · ní rár opčaið oo
fearpaimn.⁴
19. Ná caill-re⁵ ar cineao Čarčaiš · a lužaro to labarčaið
ní mó ar caillte ar íb ūriam ūreaz · na noiaro ip ploimnte
a róirear.
20. Mí pacar leat to leit Cuinn · buaro ar laoið-ne a lor
comluinn
tar ceann bap neam-unla a-nioð · ná zeall ealaoða ar
n-éizpeað.
21. Az elor linn iona lapair · oo fpeazpa oém oóčaraiš
cúir mazaro an mēro-re oí · ná bazair č-éizpe oirne.
22. Mí oioč cuioizte tá ar Čaoš · an tpeimpe atá i n-eaparo
ačt nač éiznižtir é fém · 'r é rna céro-pližtið comi-leir.
23. Atá az marom tñá Mac Oáire · tuile éizpe anbáile
ar uct na tuile ip teann mé⁶ · ip fearr tuine ná dooine.
24. I leit an čepc čuirear roin · rpaoinaoð iomairzið opaið
dā mbao umā a ór dāna · móp tuba⁷ bap oteazbāla.⁸
25. Muna noeapnatar éizceapc air · a lor tñúča i otaoib
eaznaiš
ní țarp rár oo na paoruib · 'r bao flán Čaoš oo
čatčaoirib.
26. Urmór a labarčar lat · oo beit acpuinneac uapac
mar rčór ná bazair i bop · zið móp azaið a n-iomur.

¹ roir generally after negative. ² "mā" = "as," cf. Voc. sub. pīor.

³ Cf. Cont. "airbert."

⁴ ūéapruinn MSS.

⁵ Cf. "ná caill ar muire

a-māin," RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 265. v. 4.

⁶ Cf. Voc. "zeall," also:

"zeall zāc oioe taoib me taoib · mar puair donzup mac amlaoið:

zeall zāc pīož-dāinna ruš rin · ar puo pīonn-aōba éibir," p. ón Čáinte,

RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 40 ⁷ VII. 5. 6. ⁸ VII. 16. ⁹ Cf. "i zceap-

čain na zceap noorčao · oo rziāmar rziot m'ealaoðan: a huēt a otreoie

ar teann rin · na hoioe oo b'fearr o'Éirinn," p. ón Čáinte, RIA. 23 E.

14. Their origin we hold in remembrance. To them belongs the choice half of Eire. Let them be judged from their tribes since they are the ancestors of those tribes.
15. There sprang from them ¹ to complete ² the respect which the nobility of their stock should have for the race, saints and poets and faithful souls (?).
16. Pleasant was their peace, fierce their fighting. Never was wanting in them the practice of valour,³ and glory, the bestowing of gifts, and honour.
17. I admit Conn's descendants are good. They would be none the less good were I to put above them our Eibhear's stock owing to its fair endowments !
18. I strive not with pride of speech to invent falsehood or calumny or contentious argument. I defy the rage of Conn's race. I shall not, however, put ⁴ contempt on you.
19. Do not forget in your poems, O Lughaidh, Carthach's race,⁵ or the sons of Brian of the Breagha too, and the races of their younger brothers.
20. Never in Leath Cuinn was seen by you anyone to surpass our heroes in battle,—in spite of your unwillingness to admit it—nor any learning to surpass our sages.⁶
21. As we listen to your answer flaming with fierce self-confidence, that part of it (about your learning) makes us laugh. Do not threaten your poets on us !⁷
22. It is not that Tadhg has none to aid him⁸ now that he is engaged in this struggle, but he is not hard-pressed, and that, too, evident from the start.
23. Indeed Mac Daire is pouring forth, a torrent of terrific learning. In that torrent I am confident.⁹ One man is better than (your) many.
24. In defence of the truth he inflicts on you a rout in conflict. Even if his poetic adornments be mere brass¹⁰ great is the overthrow ¹¹ of your attack ! ¹²
25. Unless he be unfairly used owing to your jealousy of him as a sage—he never treated poets with contempt—let Tadhg go free from your insults.
26. As for the majority (of Northern poets) who are said by you to be superior ¹³ to you, do not threaten them as your reserves on us, however wonderful you think their learning.

15, p. 181, v. 15. ¹⁰ VII. 12. ¹¹ $\tau\upsilon\zeta\alpha$ MSS., cf. V. 10 (note). ¹² Cf. " $\Delta\eta$
 $\rho\omicron\eta\alpha$ $\epsilon\lambda\omicron\mu\alpha\eta\alpha$ $\Delta\eta$. $\Delta\eta$ $\zeta\omicron\omicron\eta$ $\tau\epsilon\alpha\zeta\beta\acute{\alpha}\lambda\alpha$ um $\tau\epsilon\alpha\eta\eta\iota\alpha\iota\zeta$," τ . $\eta\mu\epsilon\omicron\delta\iota\eta\epsilon$, RIA.
 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 4. ¹³ VII. 5.

27. Comhairleis do éiríoe féin · do tás níl heasat oibéim
nó go dtí dé cás doo éorís · go ré níl trác dá tásasas.
28. Dá mbeac trom aise oim-ra · fa éirteac na n-anlonn-ra
níor beitte trá ro-šroo rum · a-tá bar scómra comérom.
29. Tus tás doin-freasa oim · luét freasa an taoib
tallamuin
acé a fadon-rá¹ muin ar muin · ní fuil acé don-dán asat.
30. Má tá don foilcear asat · le noctas do nuas-basair
ar sras é'anma abair roin · 'r ná casat lahra a luasat.

ná casat.

¹ Sdon- possibly can be used for roin-? cf. XXIX. 19.

27. Give advice to your own friends—Tadhg need not fear your insults—until the result will be that they will stop you! Hitherto there is no need of your instructing Tadhg.
28. If he blamed me for listening (in silence) to these disputants it were not fitting to be hasty with me, (as) your contest is equal.
29. One answer Tadhg gave you all, the disputants on your side over there (in North). You have only one thing to say except that you keep boldly ¹ repeating it over and over!
30. If you have any hidden argument so as to develop a new attack on us, for the love of your reputation give it to us, and spare not your speech, O Lughaidh!

CRÉAD FA TÚÁ TADÚS IS LUĞARÓ. mac̃šam̃am ó
nifeARNÁm cct.

1. CRÉAD FA TÚÁ TADÚS IR LUĞARÓ · r̃šat̃ad̃ 'r̃ pol̃m̃ad̃ deat-
búšaró ¹
do éinn neap̃t ad̃b̃al op̃ra · peac̃t šan ad̃b̃ar̃ eatop̃ra.
2. Ní leo FA MAOIR AC̃T MOINN BEAS · r̃leac̃ta na b̃flait̃ FÁ
b̃fuileat̃
p̃ann ⁴ ir-teac̃ éáiñis éap̃ra · FA leat̃ éall̃ don talam̃-ra.
3. Éibear̃ m̃ár é ba fine · nó Éipeam̃ón op̃ra-r̃oe ⁵
r̃šéal naé móir̃e mo mead̃air̃ · t̃p̃ean óige 'na n-oišpead̃aib̃.
4. Cluiñr̃ó ir c̃p̃eoir̃ó ar̃ don · mo r̃šéal maic̃ a d̃á m̃ac̃aom̃
a t̃p̃uall̃ a t̃ar̃óš ir LUĞARÓ · m̃air̃is naé cian ó t̃c̃ual̃ad̃air̃.
5. DO BÍ AN CAT 'r̃ AN PIONNAC̃ PEAT̃ · lé éile i šcum̃ann d̃ainšean
as̃ peil̃is f̃iaōaig̃ ir éañlaic̃ · FA leir̃is d̃iam̃air̃ t̃p̃oib̃éal̃aig̃. ⁷
6. F̃r̃ic̃ peata muice meap̃ra · leo rañ éoil̃ FA com̃ineap̃ra
b̃p̃air̃t na t̃uir̃ce don t̃p̃oiñis d̃il̃ ⁸ · i p̃oiñn na muice m̃éic̃e. ⁸
7. ROINN AR̃ AR̃ ÉUIPEAD̃AR̃ CION · AN IOT̃ ⁹ DON T̃p̃ean ón t̃r̃óir̃ear̃
FA b̃r̃ioš móir̃e na d̃eir̃e · níor̃ d̃iol̃ ¹⁰ óige an f̃ir̃ei-re.
8. I n-doir̃ an éait̃ cum̃t̃ar̃ leir̃ · céad̃ bliad̃an b̃r̃eas̃ an ipeir̃
t̃eir̃ an p̃ionnac̃ ruar̃ ó p̃oiñ · i šc̃puar̃ b̃p̃ionnac̃ ¹¹ ar̃
b̃r̃eas̃aib̃.
9. DO CUM̃ AN PIONNAC̃ A PUM̃ · pe p̃ae teac̃t̃ Ép̃ior̃t̃ i šcol̃aiñn
šp̃eir̃om̃ don iot̃ lé ¹² níor̃ léig̃eas̃ · c̃p̃ioé nárb̃ é ¹³ níor̃b̃
f̃oir̃éig̃ean.
10. TIS ONCÚ UAD̃B̃PEAC̃ ALLAR̃ · éuca mar̃ do éual̃am̃air̃
nar̃ doñt̃uig̃ d̃'aoir̃ aca p̃oiñ · šaoir̃ ní f̃aca na n-doir̃aib̃.
11. COILÉAN BOP̃B̃ BLIAD̃NA ŠO LEIT̃ · naéar̃ šéill̃ d̃'aoir̃ f̃ir̃
aiñb̃p̃eic̃ ¹⁴
leir̃ ar̃ m̃ipe an iot̃ 'r̃ AN P̃eoir̃ · ón t̃ine ¹⁵ d̃'f̃ioé ¹⁵ ir̃ d̃'aim̃-
t̃eoiñ.
12. BAP̃AM̃AIL ¹⁷ DO B̃eip̃um̃ d̃i · iac̃ Éipeanñ iot̃ na muice
c̃p̃ioé na p̃liom̃-éúr̃ t̃t̃ior̃m̃-šlañ t̃ce · ní m̃ioñgnad̃ iom̃c̃ñú
im̃pe.
13. 'S IAD̃ RO AN PIONNAC̃ IR AN CAT · TADÚS LUĞARÓ LÁN LEOP̃
t̃'iom̃lac̃
šleic̃ na ruad̃ r̃aob̃ an cogaō · t̃uaō ar̃ don šé f̃uap̃ad̃ar̃.

¹Line corrupt? ²The English? Cf. XXX. 26. ³About rights of seniority?
⁴Cf. use of "šab̃áltar̃," XV. 132; also "d̃á nua-p̃oiñn šan t̃ip̃le ón t̃p̃uig̃ ·
t̃uap̃am̃ doñ ép̃ic̃-re Conuill," "two new sets of invaders," S. Mc̃ an
B̃air̃o, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 12. ⁵=op̃ra and f̃r̃oe (emphat. particle) (?).
⁶T̃ne ó, an ó. MSS. ⁷Cf. t̃p̃ob̃él. Wind. Wört. Rime faulty. ⁸Corrupt?
⁹Cf. O'Don. Suppl. iē; Quiggin, Dialect of Donegal, pp. 45, 70; Laws,
Gloss. itha, itharna; Vis. McCongl; Z.C. iii., 218-36. ¹⁰For uses of "d̃iol̃"
cf. "do t̃. d̃'f̃ioir̃-m̃ol̃t̃aib̃ ioñnaib̃," T. Mc̃Oáipe, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 130, v. 14;
"ní f̃uil̃ mo d̃iol̃ d̃'añáir̃ ann," id. RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 22, v. 24; "do šeib̃ a d̃.

1. What are Tadhg and Lughaidh about. . . . (?) overpowering might ² has conquered them. Law ³ has no meaning now for them.
2. They possess, alas ! only a little part (of the land), the princes about whom they dispute. An invasion ⁴ has come in on them in that portion of this land.
3. Whether Eibhear was the elder among them or Eireamhon—alas ! my joy is none the greater. Great is the folly in their heirs.⁶
4. Listen, and believe too, my good story, ye two young men ! A pity you heard not long ago their story, O Tadhg and Lughaidh !
5. A cat and a fox were once joined in strong affection, hunting game and birds over the tangled pathless ⁷ hill.
6. A nice mast-fed pig was found by them in the wood next them. (?) in the division of the fat pig.
7. The sharing, on which they fixed, was “ the fat ⁹ to the elder rather than to the younger,” solemnised by the oaths of them both. Not fair ¹⁰ to youth was that judgment !
8. In stating his age the cat makes it out a hundred years—a lying story. The fox goes back beyond that, deceiving ¹¹ by lies in his difficulty.
9. The fox puts their (his ancestors’) age before the Incarnation. Not a bit of the fat was left on her (the pig). No other period of time would have settled the matter.
10. There comes a haughty proud wolf up to them, as we heard, who did not agree to the ages of either of them. He saw no force in their ages.
11. A rough wolf-cub a year and a half old who paid no respect to the age of a fool.¹⁴ By him is torn off instantly the fat and the flesh from the pig ¹⁵ by force ¹⁶ and violence.
12. I am giving you a parable.¹⁷ The land of Eire is the fat of the pig. No wonder there should be rivalry for the land of the smooth dry fair comfortable mansions.
13. The fox and the cat are Tadhg and Lughaidh given to abuse. The fight of the sages is a foolish squabble—though they have both come to trouble owing to it.

ḡlaíir-ḡionn,” ḡ. ón éáinte, RIA. 23 N. 11, p. 166, v. 34 ; “ ḡionn ḡíola ḡom ḡán ḡo ḡíla,” “ ḡr é ḡr mionca ḡr ḡr mó ḡíol,” ḡ. Ó ḡálaíḡ, RIA. 23 D. 13, p. 27, vv. 1, 4. ¹¹ “ Deceitful,” cf. “ ḡ ḡuonnaíḡ ón ḡ ḡuonnaíḡ,” ḡ. ón éáinte, RIA. 23 M. 16, p. 80, v. 6. ¹² R1P MSS. ¹³ ḡríoc ná pé MSS. ¹⁴ ? ḡar . . . ḡnḡreiceḡo, ḡnḡreice MSS. Cf. “ anfeth ” Contrib. ¹⁵ Sine MSS. Cf. Wind. Wört ; Magh Rath, p. 58 ; “ ḡrí céḡo tinne,” Poem “ ḡ eolca muihan,” TCD. 1281, v. 13. ¹⁶ Cf. Wind. “ fích,” and Laws, Gloss. ¹⁷ Cf. “ ḡarḡaíḡ ḡíleḡ ḡoib ḡo . ḡn éruic ḡíor ḡan éruann ḡléḡoḡ,” ḡ. mc ḡáire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 16.

14. Ráð na n-ollam ná héirio gur . an Sall-ós onéú an áitir
 do éur pé a gcinnreall ¹ ó éion . 'r é ar rinnreap 'r ar
 róireap.
15. Ní tashnam leat a lušarò . ná pe taròs pé otaulaðair
 fá otašnam ní tpiall éum táir . ciall a n-abnam ip eadpáin.
16. Opoðarò ² leaðair eipš ar . a lušarò oáir léir eolap
 oéanarò puapò ná tairš tpoio . 'r ip ³ o'uañan taròs
 a-támarò.

CRÉAD FÁ OTÁ.

¹ "Bragging," etc., "ambition." Cf. O'Grady, Cat., p. 555, where the word occurs three times ; cf. "cinnpiúlac" "inquisitive" which may be from

14. Listen not to the words of these sages. The foreign soldier is the conquering wolf. He set no store on their pride.¹ He is the younger and the elder too.
15. I do not argue with you, Lughaidh, nor with Tadhg, with whom you are engaged. The meaning of my words is not to reproach you. Their object is peace-making.
16. Give up the scribbling of books,² O Lughaidh to whom all lore is known. Calm thyself. Seek not quarrel. It is owing to (our) fear of Tadhg (destroying you) that we are (entreating you).

this word. (Sheehan, Seán-éadair na n'Óéiré).
O'R. ? bpoü av, MSS. ³ MSS. rarp.

² " bpoüaim," " I stain,"

AN TUIRSEAC TAOI A LUŠAÍO. EOŠAN MCCRAIT CcT.

1. An tuirpeac taoi a lušaíó · brónac dúit a noubnamair
to nam-éoil-pe ní fáct foir · na-tuirpe ar éac ar éanair.
2. Do ršaoilir ršannail šaoiréac · raobac céille a šcom-
maoiréamh
nó ir meirge feirge roo fíoc · meirpe ar šceirto-ne šan
cuimhíoc.
3. Munab ionnuiin šarpat šall · mairš to maoiró mon ² ná
meapball
šo lóir o'fáltanar ir o'feall · ar ríóš n-arc-amhar n'éireann.
4. 'Do leantaoi le labra tair · rnáite ríodamhail reanóair
le luét riše róm-šnáit Té · 'r a riše o'or-rnáit éirge.
5. Šréar ³ to rítearš ⁴ porš nó rann · bac cairt le clannairb
clann-šall
bac ríadain coróce ar ar šcol · na ríadail foirbte ó ušdar.
6. Ceit šac mairéara a maoiréamh · ná tuš šeall roo šréar-
laoiréac
Clóó é'raobair i n-eagna éaic · maoiuis roo éreagra rionn-
aic.
7. Do bainfeac roo bagar róo · comráo a clocaib caoos
bac o'éiréac le bošar balb · oá n-éiréac o'rošar ac-šaró.
8. Ní éarriéair oá éarba a éairš · mār uib láéair an iomairš.
il-beaóšac ir ac na brear · tré iméaršac mac Míleac.

AN TUIRSEAC.

¹? MSS. neam-cf. oas—. ²"mon," "guile," O'R. Dict. cf. monac Toch. Em. (K. Mey.) 7, (note). ³For uses of "šréar," cf. "šréar marbharde mic mic airt. oáimac beo an t-oiréoiróaire: ro rnoišpíre na šréar šlan. šréar bac ršoi-šile ršiamac," f. ón éainte, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 31, "ná cum ro šréar šaoiréirge," m. ó híearnán, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 95, v. 2; "rnáite šearri ro šréir ríamac," "o'éir cara ro oáin-šréir veit. lóin-léiré tana tréimeit," S. Mc an báir, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, vv. 19, 22; "ní gléar cornaim leac ar leac. fán nšréir n-om-roin acé inneac," f. ón éainte, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 185, v. 60. ⁴Cf. "il-éaróa ruara pé n-air. rítearša uamh an iomair,"

[vv. 1, 8 would suggest that Lughaidh had been silent for some time. As no other Northerners are mentioned I have put it before McArthur's, etc., poems].

1. Are you tired, Lughaidh? Annoying to you have been our words. Not want of will¹ has made you cease, but because your poems have wearied everyone.
2. You have made public the scandals of the Gaoidhil. It was perverseness of mind in you to speak of them, or intoxication of anger that enraged you. Our profession is the worse for want of restraint.
3. Unless you love the foreign hosts, woe to you for telling of guile² and error, with much hate and treachery, about the host of the noble soldiers of Eire.
4. In smooth language the silken threads of history used to be traced by the disputants of Te's chief home (K), weaving it through with a golden thread of poetry.
5. Composition³ of rhetoric,⁴ poems or verses would be thought a charter by the treacherous foreigners. It would be thought a witness for ever to our crime, a perfect standard set by a good author.
6. Boasting of good qualities results in their being denied. Set not too much store on your artful composition. In the knowledge possessed by all lies the blunting of your over-zeal. Lessen the keenness of your sharp answer.
7. The threats you have uttered would draw speech from the stones of hills. A deaf mute would be disgusted to listen to your rough words.
8. O! Tadhg, if the field of battle remains in your possession, you have not secured⁵ much benefit from the terrifying and wounding of heroes, seeing that the sons of Mile have been brought to shame.⁶

p. ón Cainte, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 3; cf. Magh Rath, p. 154. ⁵ Cf. "τάριτοιρ κάρ νεαίηρατα α-νοίρ . βάρι το ύεαξ-πλατα τουτέαιρ," C. McOáige, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 32, v. 36. ⁶ Initial word not repeated.

measa a tairòs do tashrais féin. R. mc ARTÚIR,
O.S.F., cct.

1. Measa a tairòs do tashrais féin · ioná Torna i n-aghair léill
'r ir mó do tashrais ar Corc · níor óligir Torna o' éaghaic.
2. I n-aghair neacta na sean · do tógbaír béim ar an bpeap
sá¹ ráo náir cuimneac an éiall · as tashra oó re poi-miall.
3. Óligmro sibé ní deasa · upruim dar rasoitib seana
aet muna follur a mbéas · ar píir-éapc oá mbeic coiméao.
4. Mar rin somao corrmuil duit · san don aiteir do tashrais
a mic Dáire do Torna · file searua rasoit-éromua.
5. Éagcoir mar do rároeo leat · nac deapna díceall ná ceapc
bíeo nac í an lllumha meapua · fío bunaró a seimeamna.
6. Tashra flim⁴ élaoin-bpeac le báir · níor shac o' éisrib lnnre
fáil
ba ceapua an o'piong níor bo tim · ba móir a meap i n'éirinn.
7. Níorb iongnac do ríoshuib fáil · a móir-meap riam ar an
noám
maic do cuill a mbéasa dáib · a bpuairpeao uaca o' anáir.
8. San féacain do maicne saoil · caomnuir riam caipce sac don
sibé díob nac oiongnac ro · ní hé Torna nac deapna.
9. Óligro sac neac a caomna · sac cúir oá mbi ar a taoba
ar ioncaib Torna do bí · tashra cúirc rir an airo-pí.
10. Dob' oroe fío don oír fear · Torna báoac⁵ náir élaon bpeac
ní comráo ar a bfuil tlaet · nac oiongnac do Corc oútpaet.
11. Maic do tashrais ar a son · lúgaro fearac mac mlic Con
do deapua nac eagla ná báir · tug Torna tim ra teagbáil.
12. Oámao báir fío do b'éapao · a n'oeapna roin do o'éanam
sibé mar do s'éanao Corc · níor ólig turpa é o' éaghaic.
13. Níor ólig Torna mār fíor duit · caomna caipce rínnpír cúirc
cuimneac mar rin ciall an píir · san díceall díob do o'éinn.
14. Do bpeac féin dúinn oá deapba · mār incperote do labrao
caomna a maicne féin amáin · óligro éisre i n-ionapbáir.
15. Ní cuigim-re mār fíor ro · aóbar é-aghaic ar Torna
aóbar éaghaic ir léir leam · opuib-re as éisrib éireann.
16. Mār fíor a n-abapcar lib · oic iontaoib rir na héisrib
'r nac í¹⁰ a-máin a maicne féin · do níob an éisre o' óis-péir.
17. Ní maic do tógbaír mar b'éis · 'r ní lór mar tashrais a tairòs
so otug rórar o' éibear fíonn · poinn teite o' lúir éireann.

¹ MSS. as. ² III. 2. ³ III. 33, etc. ⁴ Cf. "marbair pí ní flim a nim · an tí ar a pill oá rúilib," T. McDáire, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 34; or "smooth," "insidious," cf. 3 Sh. ⁵ Or "bága" "quarrelsome"? ⁶ Cf. "caic péir noaingin-oín oútpaet," A. Ó Dálaigh, RIA. 23 G. 27, p. 192, v. 3. ⁷ IV. 41, 43. ⁸ Because Torna was not of Mumha originally. ⁹ III. 2. ¹⁰ é MSS. ¹¹ III. 6, 7.

[Answers III., refers to IV., and previous to XV. (Cf. XVIII. 8)].

1. Worse than Niall's, Tadhg, is your argument against Torna, and greater claims have you made for Corc. You should not have reviled Torna.
2. Against the laws of the ancients you attacked that hero, saying that when he spoke with mighty Niall ² it was an ill-considered thing.
3. Whatever you say, we should, if we mean to uphold justice, honour our ancient sages unless they clearly lie.
4. Thus, it seems you, son of Daire, not to revile Torna the ancient noble weighty poet.
5. It was wrong of you to say he did not do his best or his duty, even though active Mumha was not his original country.³
6. Poor argument and biassed judgment were not the habit of the poets of Inis Fail. They were a just race and not weak. Great was their honour in Eire.
7. No strange thing in the kings of Fal was the honour they ever gave poets. Well did the poets' character merit the honour they got.
8. Without regard for their own kin, they preserve the charters of all. Whichever of them did not do this, Torna failed not to do it.
9. Everyone has the right to defend the cause of those on his side. Under the protection of Torna (to back it) were spoken Corc's words to the High-King.
10. Torna the affectionate,⁵ straight in judgment, was teacher to the two heroes. It is not seemly to say that he would not have said all he could ⁶ for Corc.
11. Lughaidh son of Mac Con argued well for Torna, proving it was not fear or love that made him weak in the dispute.⁷
12. If it was love (for Niall) that made him so act, however Corc might have acted you had no right to abuse Torna.
13. Torna had no right, according to you, to defend the rights of Corc's ancestors.⁸ It was thus a happy thought of him not to do his best for them!
14. Your own statement is there to prove that—if we are to believe you—the duty of poets in contention is to defend merely their own race.⁹
15. Thus I do not see why you revile Torna. Reason for reviling you it is clear to me the poets of Eire have.
16. If what you say be true one could never trust poets, as, in fact, it was not only their own folk whom they served.
17. It was unwise of you to challenge as false—and badly have you proved it false—that his younger brother gave Eibhear half of Eire.¹¹

18. Dámað ó oisneacét aḁar • do bíað realb Éireann aca
rinnreap do bað cuirte i ruim • ó fóireap o'fáaḁáil fearainn.
19. Sinnreapaét ní tuḁann ceapc • ar éir na bfeacḁar le neapc
calmaét na bfeap ar ceapc ann • ir ní haorḁacét fear
n-anbḁann.
20. Ní burdeac ar beicce díot • o'fuit Éibir fa é-áireamh ríog
a n-éacḁa roḁair a rean • ní roḁar díob iao o'áireamh.
21. Soḁair Banba ó fuit Éibir • a n-áireamh do bað céillro
áireamh a ríog do b'é a leap • oá nḁearnḁaoi é ḁan comimeap.
22. An comimeap ir é do ḁreir • fearḁ Luigdeac ḁion ḁur luinn
leir
temneal ḁur éur ar bar nḁlór • aḁ cornamh ríl Éireamhóin.
23. Do áiríur móir an míocuro⁴ • oiar ríog o'earbaró ar érucaro
reireap 'r céao Luḁaró ḁan oil • beaḁ bar oḁaróbre na
bpoḁair.
24. Cúis roḁair mar ríḁne ríog • máir ḁlór o'fuit Éibir a ríom
tuḁrao ar Luḁaró ḁro eao • roḁair ar uille o'áireamh.
25. Soḁair ir ríḁne flaḁa • áiríur ar ríogḁaró Maḁa
ḁar do céao a n-áireamh roin • beaḁ ré oḁaoib do cúis roḁair.
26. Ná buð conḁlann oá céile • ríol Éireamhóin ríol Éibir
ní aḁ ḁac don do bíað a' fíor • oá rḁuirḁea a ḁaróḁ ooo
comimeap.
27. Éaḁcomḁrom áiríne na ríog • 'r na roḁair ḁair⁹ Éire díob
pollur do ḁac don a-noir • ar é-fíne ir ḁrom do ḁaḁair.
28. Duan a máirḁ do ḁorc Cláire • ir do móir-fluaḁ na Máirḁ
an ríle o'fuit Éibir fínn • ḁarḁa ro éuro-re oon comnḁinn.
29. Oic liom im éur ḁan ḁarba • ó fíor é-ealaḁna ir é-anma
múrḁlaḁ falḁanair na bfeap • aḁ maorḁeamh éacḁ mac
Míleaḁ.
30. Na ríro eile ir eao bío • aḁ ceanḁal cairḁoir ir ríó
a loḁ do bað leanḁa díob • báro liom-ra ḁur lean Luḁaró.
31. Siol an oá mac rin Míleaḁ • ḁar a nḁaol ḁé ḁá ar ríneaḁ
a neapcairḁear cian ó aḁ-élor • máirḁ múrḁlar a bfalḁanar.

¹ i.e., one could then conclude that the land given by the younger was worse than what he kept for himself. ² III. 8, 11. ³ III. 16. ⁴ Cf. "an-éuro," "majority"; "dichuid," Contrib. ⁵ IV. 46. ⁶ III. 17-20, 22. ⁷ Cf. XXI. 2 n. ⁸ IV. 21. ⁹ "ḁair," 3 Sg. Pr. Sbj. of "to-air-ic" or "to-reth," generally used as future, but also as Pres. or Past, cf. XIV. 35; also "máirḁ ḁair iaoḁin o'áirle cáig • luḁḁ maoróim naḁ móir éaoáil," O'Grady, Cat. 555, v. 17.

18. Had it been by way of inheritance from their father that they received Eire, it would be then a point worth proving that the elder got land from the younger.¹
19. Seniority does not give the right to a land when it is being seized by force. Heroes' bravery is the right title, and not the age of feeble men.
20. Eibhear's race ought not to thank you for counting their kings.² No benefit to them is your telling of their crimes and their ancients' "benefits."
21. To tell of the benefits brought to Banba by Eibhear's race would have been sensible, but it would have been better to count their kings without drawing any comparisons.
22. It was this comparison which stirred Lughaidh's anger to cast darkness on your glory—though he was otherwise not anxious to do so.
23. You counted twenty-eight³ kings on your side—great was the inferiority,⁴—Lughaidh a hundred and six⁵ correctly. Poor is your display beside them!
24. It was your five "benefits"⁶ mentioned by you as royal insignia⁷—if it be any glory to Eibhear's race to count them—which urged Lughaidh to count still greater ones.⁸
25. He counted benefits which are signs of kingship for Macha's kings. Near hundred their number. Poor beside them look your five benefits!
26. That the races of Eibhear and of Eireamhon were not equal to each other, every one might not have known had you refrained from your comparison!
27. From the unequal number of kings on either side, and the unequal benefits which Eire got⁹ from them, every one sees now that your argument tells against your own race.
28. A lasting misfortune for Corc of Dun gClaire and for the great host of the Maigh is the poet of Eibhear's race who took your side in the contention.
29. I like it not that by one of your knowledge and name there should in a profitless cause be awakened the heroes' anger by the telling of the crimes of Mile's race.
30. The other poets are binding friendship and peace. You should have followed their example. I am delighted that Lughaidh followed it.
31. As for the seed of those two sons of Mile, close is their kinship, though both now lie low. Long is it since their enmity has been heard of. Woe to him who awakens their strife!

32. Sealb na hÉireann ar gach taobh • ceapb gur riar mórán
 a-ráon
 beas atá eatorra anor • maisc mórslar a bpalcánar.
33. Beas mairear dá n-gablaib gaoil • ceapc a gcarair ceapc a
 maoin
 'r iomdha a n-eapcairce anor • maisc mórslar a bpalcánar.
34. Ná gab éugad a gcan rinn • ní do érom oib a-beirum
 'r ní d'ionnlaic an taoibce ceap • déic nac aic liom an comhmar.

measa do.

32. Certain it is that the possession of Eire in every part has passed from them both. Little is the difference between them now. Woe to him who awakens their strife !
33. Few of their branching families live now ! Few their friends ! Small their wealth ! Many now are their foes ! Woe to him who awakens their strife !
34. Take not to heart my words. Not to revile you do I say them, or to revile the South, but because I like not this comparison of yours.

ῥΟ ῤΕΑΘ ὈΟΘ ῤΑΙΡΜ Δ ὙΡΆΤΑΙΡ. ΤΑΥῤ ἡεΘΔΙΡΕ οοτ.

1. ῤΟ ῤΕΑΘ ὈΟΘ ῤΑΙΡΜ Δ ὙΡΆΤΑΙΡ · ὈΟ Ὑ΄ΡΕΑΙΡ ΔΙΡΕ ΔΙ ὈΟ
 ἑΡΆΤΑΙὙ
 ΝΙ ΤΥ ὈΟ ῤΕΙὙ ἡΟὙ ἰΟ ῤΡἰὙ · ΔΕΤ. ΝΑ ῤΡΆὙΑ ΄Ρ ΔΙ ΔΙὙὙ.
2. ὈΔ ὙὙῤῤΔ ΔΙΡΕ ὙΔΜ-ΡΑ · ῤΔΑΙΡ ἡΕΙὙ ὈΟΘ ἑΡΕΔὙΔὙ ΤΑΡΡΝΑ²
 ΔΙ ἑΔΑΕὙ ΔΙ ΔΙ ἑΥΙΡ ῤΔΜ · ῤὙἰ ῤΟἡΔὙ ΔΙΡ ΝΙΟΡὙ ῤὙῤἰἰ.
3. ὈΔ ἡΕΑΡὙΔ ΝΑὙ Ὑἰῤῤῤῤ ῤἰΝ · ἡΟ ἑὙΙΡ ῤΕΙἰ ὈΟ ἑΔῤΡΑ ῤὙὙ
 ὙῤΔἰ ΝΕΔὙ ῤΕ ῤΔὙὙὙ ὙὙ · ΔΙὙὙὙὙ ῤΑ ῤὙΟΡ ΔΙ ὙΔὙΝΔΕὙ.
4. ΔΙ ΔὙὙὙὙ ῤΕΙἰ ἑΔῤΡΑΙἰ ῤὙὙ · ῤΕΙὙὙὙ ἡ΄ῤὙὙ-ἑΔὙ-ΡΑ ῤἰΝ
 ὙὙὙὙὙ³ ΔΙ ΝΙ ἑΑΡἰΔ ΔΙ ἑ-ΔΙΡΕ · ἑὙὙὙὙ ῤἰΡ ΝΑΡ ἑὙὙὙὙὙ.
5. ῤΔὙ ΝΙ ὙΕΑΝΑΡ ῤΕὙ ῤΑΙΡΜ ῤΕΙἰ · ὙὙ ΔΙἰ Ὑἰῤῤἰ ὙἰΔὙ⁴ ὈΟΘ
 ῤΕΙὙ
 ΝΙ ἡὙ ΝΑ ἰὙἰἰὙ ῤὙ Δ-ἡΔἰΝ · ἑὙὙὙὙ ὈΟΘ ἑὙἡΔὙ ἑὙἡὙὙ.
6. ὙὙἡἡἡ ὙΔἡ-ΡΕ ὙΔὙὙ ὙὙἡΔ · ῤΕΔὙ ΔΙ ὙὙὙὙἡἡἡἡἡ
 ὙὙὙὙ
 ἡὙὙ ὙὙἡἡἡ ΄Ρ ΝΑὙ Δἰἰ ὙὙ · Ὑ ῤὙὙὙ ῤΕΙἰ ὙΔὙὙ ἑὙὙὙ.
7. ἰὙ ῤὙἰὙὙ ῤὙἰ ῤΕἰὙ ῤΑ ῤΔὙ · ὙὙὙὙ ὈΟ ῤΕΔὙὙὙ ὈΟ ῤΔὙ
 Δ ἑὙὙ ΝΑ ῤΕἰὙ ἰ ἡὙὙ ἑὙὙ · ὙΔὙ ὙὙἰ ΝΙ ἡὙὙ ΔΙ ἑΔῤἑὙὙ.
8. ΔὙΔ ὙΔἡ-ΡΑ ῤὙ Ὑ ΔΙ ὙΔἡἡ · ῤΔἰ ἰὙὙὙὙὙ ἡΕἰὙ ὙΔ ῤἑἰἰ
 ΝΑὙὙὙὙὙ ἑ΄ΔἰὙὙὙ ῤἰἰἡ · ἡΟ ἑΔῤΡΑ ἡΕΔἡ-ἑἰΔὙἡ ἡΕἡἡ-ἑἡἡ.
9. ἡΕΔὙ ῤΔἰ ὙὙὙ ῤΔῤἰΔ ἰ ὙὙἡἰἰἰ · ἡΔ ἑἰΔὙἡἡἡἡ ΔἡΔἰ ὙὙἡἡ
 ἑΔῤΡΑ ῤΕ ἑΑὙὙὙ ΝΑ ῤΕΑὙ · ΝΙ ὙΕἡἡ Ὑ΄ὙὙὙ ὙὙἰ ὙὙὙὙ.
10. ἑὙὙ ὙΔἡ-ΡΑ ὙὙὙὙ Ὑἡ ῤἰὙὙ · ἰὙἡὙ ὈΟ ὙὙἡΔ ῥΟ ἡὙὙ
 ΔὙὙ ἰ ῤὙὙὙὙἡἡ ΝΑὙ ἑὙὙὙ ῤὙἡ · ΔΙ ὙἰΔ Ὑ΄ὙὙὙ ἡ ὙὙὙὙὙὙ.
11. ῤἰὙὙ Δ-ὙΕΑὙὙ ΝΑὙὙ ῤὙὙ ὙὙἡἡ · ἡΟ ῤἰὙὙ ῤΕ ὙὙἡΔ ῤΔἰ
 ῤὙἡἡ
 ὙὙἡ ῤΔἡΔἰ ΝΙ ὙὙὙ ὙΕἰὙἡἡ · ΔὙὙὙ ὙΔἰ Δ ῤὙὙὙὙὙ.
12. ἰὙὙὙΔ ΝΙ ὙἰῤῤὙὙ ὈΟ ἑΔὙ · ὙΕὙ ῤΔἰ ὙΕΔἡἡ ΔΙ Δ ῤΔἰ
 ΝΙ ἡὙὙὙὙὙ ΝΙ ὈΟ ὙὙὙ ὙΕ · ΝΙ ῤΔἰὙ ἰ ὙὙὙἡΔ ΔΕὙ ὙὙἡἡ.
13. ῤΕΔὙ-ῤὙὙ ὙὙὙ ὙὙὙ ὙΔὙὙὙ · ῥΟ ῤΕΑΘ ὙΔὙὙ ῤΕΙἰ ΝΑ
 ἡΔΕὙἡὙὙ
 ΄Ρ ΝΑ ἡΔὙὙ Ὑ ἡὙἡὙὙὙ ἑἰΔἡἡ · ῥΟ ἡὙὙ ῤΕΔὙ-ῤὙὙ ἑΔὙὙἡ.
14. ἡὙ ῤὙὙὙὙ-ΡΑ ΔΙ ὙὙὙὙ ῤΕΙἰ · ὙὙ ὙὙἡ ῤΔἰ ἑΔὙ ῤἰΝ ὙὙ ἑ
 ῤὙὙὙἡ ὙὙἡ Δῤ ὙὙὙὙὙ ῤΕΔἡ · ῤΑ ῤῤὙὙ ΔΙΡ ῤΔ ῤἰῤ⁵
 ἑὙὙὙἡἡ.
15. ἑὙὙ ὙΔἡ-ΡΑ ἰὙἡὙ ὈΟ ἑὙὙ · ῤὙὙὙ ΔΙ ῤΕΔὙὙὙ ἡΔὙ ῤὙ
 Δ ὙὙὙ
 ἑὙὙὙ ἡὙὙ ἰ ῤὙὙὙ ἡΔὙ ῤἰἡ · ἑὙὙὙ ἑὙὙ ἰ ῤὙὙὙ ῤΑὙὙὙ.

¹ Cf. XVII. 4. ² ΤΑΡΡΝΑ noun or adj. Cf. XVI. 4. ³ For ὙὙὙὙὙ, cf. V. 158. ⁴ ὙΕΔὙ MSS. ⁵ XIII. 4. ⁶ XIII. 5. ⁷ Cf. "ὈΟ ὙὙ ὙὙὙ ῤὙ ἡΔ ὙΔὙὙὙὙ, . ὙὙἰ ΝΑ ῤΕΔὙ ὈΟ ἑΔὙὙὙὙὙὙ," ῤ. Ὑἡ ἑΔἡὙὙ, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 140, v. 13. ⁸ XIII. 6, 7. ⁹ XIII. 10, cf. V. 116. ¹⁰ XIII. 11. ¹¹ XIII. 12, cf. III. 4; V. 114, 116.

[Answers XIII., and shown by XVIII. 8 to be probably previous to XV.]

1. With all respect to your calling, O Friar, it were better for you to attend to your Office. Your Orders¹ and your habit, not your personal character with its spite, impose restraint on me.
2. If you attend to me (instead of your office) there is danger of your ploughing being crooked! You should have kept your eye straight before you on the plough to which you have put your hand.
3. If you think I ought not defend my rights against you, remember that he who is spoken harshly to is dangerous. Alas! human nature is frail!
4. In my own defence I speak to you. My cause of quarrel is the greater for that. Strange³ is the task you undertake, the defence of an unbeliever (Torna)!
5. In all that concerns your calling I will obey you, as is my duty. In nothing further do I heed your authority.
6. Reflect if your opinion that I owe respect to Torna's age carries any weight, seeing that you do not wish due respect to be given by his younger brother to Eibhear's age.⁵
7. It is clear that Torna left unsaid fitting things he could have said. To bring that against him in a fair way is not a great injustice,⁶ I think.
8. It is my duty⁷ in regard to the sages to belittle none of their qualities. May your feeling for me be none the bitterer for my argument—which is not "partial" nor "weak."⁸
9. If one of your Order fails, as a man will do, a poet deserves not reproach for speaking to him as a friend for his good.
10. Uprightness in word is much more my duty than Torna's. I belong to the faith which he had not. I am richer in knowledge and science.
11. If anyone say that my plain words to Torna were untrue, one like me cannot shirk. Now is the time to establish them.
12. Many things that are a duty are left undone by many. No wonder that something should escape Torna.⁹ He was only a man.
13. Please do not be astonished if a master's affection be divided between two pupils, seeing that even fathers have a divided affection for their children.
14. In this matter I think my answer to Lughaidh is enough for you, namely Torna's evidence supporting me as to his being afraid of Eire's king.¹⁰
15. It is more my duty than Corc's to denounce a sage if he deserves it.¹¹ I am more skilled in this profession, Corc in that of arms.

16. Dámað áil leir san buain ann · ní biað tptom ar torma im
 þann
 buain¹ i ttaðra iʀ reanðað ar · bʀioð mo tpuim iʀ leir
 þeanaʀ.
17. Ní ttoruipʀim ʀa tʀem beo · tʀið-þeip ʒað aoim tð tti
 leo.
- ʒið eað na ʀiaða bʀioʀ aip · iʀ tʀiotta tʀʀioʀ aip tʀʀaið.⁴
18. Ní ʀáð éaʒnaið oʀm tʀon tðmi · má tʀið liom a ʀaðáil tðmi
 clú cion⁵ tʀon tʀuinið ʒá tʀuil ʀioʀ · ʀioʀ tʀon tʀuinið tʀaʀla
 i n-ainbʀioʀ.
19. Má tʀo tðnaʀ innte a-þip · ʀʀlannc aip lʀiðe ceo ar
 ʒip⁷
- má tʀo tʀuipar tʀʀeʀom oʀra · tʀuipar aip ʀuo a ʀean-tʀolla.
20. Má tʀo tʀuip mé i ʒcluiʀ cáið · ʒo tʀuil níʀ mð tʀʀioʀ
 im lámi
- ionár tʀo ʀaotl cáð tʀo þeit · ní ʀáð tʀiomða oʀm tʀéiðʀið.
21. Mð ar tʀoʀa tʀot oʀt ʀéin · þeit tʀiomðað tʀiot-ʀa ʀa þéin
 i ttaðra nað þeanaʀn þuið · ʀ þaʀ tʀeinn-þeʀom tʀualað
 oʀuið.
22. An ttaðra tʀo tʀuallað þuið · tʀoʀaʀoe tʀið san buain þip
 tʀuo tðmi tʀeaʀað⁸ tʀo tʀuo tð · níat þʀeiteam ann níat
 aiðne.
23. Áét don ʀlaipʀi tá i ʒcuðail · tʀo það tʀoitðe liom luðarð
 im aðarð ʀa ttaðra i ttaðm · ná t-ʀot uile ʒo hiomlán.
24. Máʀ i an tálmaét ar tʀeip ann · ní hiʀliðte¹⁰ bʀioð mo
 þann
- ʀe coip aoipe ní ʀpiét loét · ar tʀuo tʀiðʀi tʀon tálmaét.
25. Ní ʀpiét tʀaʀ ʒluaiʀ leir tʀaʀ tuinn · ní ʀpiét þoime i n-tʀiunn
 uill
- ʒá tʀtár¹² a tʀonam ʀa þoinn · a þaʀi tʀo tʀeile comluinn.
26. An tí tʀo tʀeapʀi þoime iʀ tʀi · tʀo tʀut leir iʀ é na þið
 tð níʀ comʀaʀta lʀiðe · maʀom aip cáð tʀo tʀuʀaʀoe.
27. Tʀo þean tʀið þoðð leaða · tʀéiʀunn aip ʀeað a þeaða
 nuuipʀi tʀipʀi a n-aiʀeam ʀin · an tʀuo oile tʀʀuil mlið.
28. Le noétað ʀʒéil tʀiðʀi tʀið · ʒað neað bʀioʀ na þʀeiteam
 tʀip
- ʀá það oʀm ní tʀionʒnað tptom · nað ó ʀtʀeapʀi ʀuapʀi ʀeapʀann.
29. Aiʀeam ʒað aip aiʀmeap tʀið · neam-nár tʀéiþeap iʀ tð
 ʀiott
- tʀið ʒað ba luðaroe a ʒcion · an tʀuo eile tð n-aiʀmʀioʀ.

¹ Buain (fr. bongim) as v. noun. of beanaim. For beanaim i n- cf. " ʀá þéin
 i n-aiuipʀoét umam," t. mcDáipe, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 12, v. 21. ² XIII. 13.
³ XIII. 14, 16. ⁴ aip tʀoʀað, aip tʀoʀaið, aip tʀoʀað, ó tʀoʀaið all used. ⁵ Cf.
 " níʀ tʀuip þʀuan tʀéil na tʀeanaib," tʀoim. mcDʀuapʀeada, RIA. 23 D. 14,

16. Had Torna not interfered ¹ I should not have attacked him in my poem. The point of my attack is that he did interfere and did it ineffectually (?).²
17. I object to no party serving those of their side. Yet one must fulfil ³ first the duties incumbent on him.
18. If I manage to secure the fame of triumphs ⁵ for those who have knowledge, and knowledge for the ignorant, that is no just reason ⁶ for the poets to revile me !
19. If I have kindled in them flame when dust had settled on embers⁷ ; if I have made them search their old records :
20. If I dinned into the ears of all that I have more knowledge in hand than anyone thought I had, that is no reason for the poets to revile me !
21. Your Order has the greater reason for anger at your interfering in a dispute that concerns you not, because other heavy labours are obligatory on you.
22. It were better for you not to meddle with the dispute you have undertaken. Yours is " the role of the ox at milking time." ⁸ You are no judge nor pleader in the case.
23. I was sorrier that Lughaidh should be against me in this dispute than if the whole of your Order was in it—except Flaithri ⁹ alone who wears the habit.
24. If bravery constitutes right the point of my verse is not to be belittled.¹⁰ Except for his being old ¹¹ no fault was ever found with Eibhear's bravery !
25. Of all who came over sea with him, of all who were in Eire before him, there was not any one to fight him ¹² for his share, any warrior to surpass him.
26. The bravest man who met him in the land ¹³ fell when king by the hand of Eibhear. That showed no weakness in him ! His victory over everyone else was the easier for it.
27. He took from them his choice half of Eire during his life. Three was the number of the others of Mile's stock.¹⁴
28. No fair judge would have been angry with me for saying,¹⁵ when telling them Eibhear's story, that he did not receive the land from his younger brother.
29. To count the kings whom I counted was no shame to Eibhear and his race. Their triumph will not, I think, be less if I tell of the rest of them ! ¹⁶

p. 135. ⁶ XIII. 15. ⁷ Syll. short. leg. ceotg. ciac or ap an ng. ⁸ XVI. 6, 92, evidently a proverb. ⁹ p. Ó maolcónaire, O.S.F., Archbishop of Tuam. O'R. 1629. ¹⁰ MSS. írtighe. ¹¹ XIII. 17-19. ¹² ? MSS. go o-áir. ¹³ Mac Cuill, III. 8. ¹⁴ Eireamhon, Eibhear son of Ir, Lughaidh son of Ith. ¹⁵ III. 7. ¹⁶ XIII. 20. MSS. áiríúnn.

30. An coimínear ní mé do éiriall • aét do éabairt fíreagha
ar miall
níorb iongnadh mé dá éirí rir • eirí dár léig Toirna éirir.
31. An-ra ir luğarò so péirò • conghairò bar mbéas aghair
féin
óirg so bfuigítear eirí dá fíor • tíg óiom má éiríam
coimínear.
32. Mí haóbar teimil dom glóir • mé do éagha neit don éoir
gan ainbóir pé éirí im leir • gan luait-bheir ir gan leir-
bheir.
33. Mí tuita re fíreagha mbuirb • irteac tar moó ruagla an
uir
ó'fíor do ghabaó éiríre a-mac • baó deacair maic cáic
ó'ionnlaic.
34. Sé baó ceao ag do dá gairm • brácair doctúir bar noá
ainm
óion ceir píos-fíuag Mumhan Mír • ní léigíob óiom ar
é-áir.
35. Áirir ir luait-bheir mar don • gíó com-luac uair-re ar gac
taob
ní éiríre leo mife im doct • so b'ionnair cáic do dúiríac.⁴
36. Do éiríre mar an raogal • so doctúir cáic ir baogal
an raogal do éirí do luirg • irteac ar fíor an glan-uir.
37. Iongnadh nac deairíar dá péir • mar do ní eirí máic don
éirí
nar conghair bheir do bheiré • so deiríac na raoiríne.
38. Ro-luac ruair le luğarò • bheir oram mar nár éubair
rú do éuala tú pé mear • don focaí rir dom aighnear.
39. Míor fíarraig tú an mbiaó pé ráó • éinní agham ar mo
rúac⁵
ma mbheir bheiré doairéa óuir • doo éomíac mar nár
éomíur.
40. Síbé mar do fíreaghaí mé • Miall nó Toirna na nglóir féin
nár mear tú ríur é do oir • mar fíreagha do glóir luğarò.
41. Mí mar do téx éiríacoi glúair • aét mar éirínear re bar
gelúair
níor gellar uile a míom rir • ríg náir rocair ríur n'éirí.
42. Gíó eao do áirínear eirí óiob • dá éirí i gceirí naéar
fíor
brácair uairíreac ainneann léir • péir gairíneac an-fíac
óir-féin.
43. Míor áirínear aét uacáó ruar • níor áirínear mar fáraó
cluar
na ríg nac ruğarò ann ríom • ná céao blíadán na deagharò.

30. It was not I who started the comparison. I merely answered Niall. No wonder I added some things which Torna omitted.¹
31. Remain quiet you and Lughaidh ! Keep your falsehood to yourselves. I think some of it will be discovered ! I, too, if I choose can make " comparisons " !
32. It brings no shadow on my glory ² that I should plead some of the truth, so that no ignorance or rash or biassed judgment can be brought against me.
33. You should not ³ by your rough answer have violated the moderation enjoined by your Rule. He who would transgress it ought hardly to attack others' good deeds !
34. I will pay due deference to your two titles, friar and doctor, but for all your reviling, I will not omit to defend the rights of the noble host of Mumha Mis.
35. As for reviling and rash judgment, though you are ready with them at every point, you shall not silence me by means of them before everyone sees the excess of your zeal ! ⁴
36. You have fled from the world ! All see, I fear, that the world has followed you into the pure Order !
37. I wonder you acted not as most of the clergy, keeping the sentence till the end of the confession !
38. Too hastily, like Lughaidh, you improperly passed judgment on me before hearing, so as to examine it, a word of my argument against him !
39. You asked not if I had a word to say in my defence ⁵ before in unseemly wise passing sentence of condemnation on your peer !
40. Whatever answer I made Niall or Torna, using their own words, you thought it did not suit as an answer to Lughaidh.
41. Your notes are not according to your text, but are according as they please your ear ! I did not promise to count all the kings, or all the benefits of Eibhear's race.
42. Yet, I mentioned some of them to disprove the proud arrogant word of Niall who called them " usurpers." ⁶
43. I counted only a few of them. I did not count to please the ear the kings who were not born then, nor for a hundred years after !

¹ XIII. 21, 22. ² XIII. 22. ³ Or " One must not " . . . to bring out contrast of ἵπτεαδ . . . ἀμαδ, but sense seems less good. ⁴ Cf. " τοο ἀν πεαρ ὀλιγε οὐτμααταδ . τοο νι τον ὀοιρ ἐδσχοιρ," p. ὄν ὀάντε, RIA. 23 N. 11, p. 166, v. 43.

⁵ Cf. " καοιν ἀρ πυλαινδ ἀρ τοο ρσάτ . ὀμιορ το ὀεανναδς κάε ι σέοιν," Δ. ὀ ὀάλαδς, RIA. 23 M. 23, p. 5, v. 3 ; Vis. McCongl.

⁶ III. 13.

44. Dá n-áirimhinn nís peampa a-raon . ran lops díreac ar gac
taobh
ní fuiginn féin ná luðaró . do bpeir as miall dá ceactar.
45. Níor áirimh mé nís don fpeimh . gá mbeir éin-neac d'Éirinn
féin
ná neart eactarann as roinn nír . na nísge fearó a flaitir.
46. Fada gabaim ó bar nór . naçar áirimh mire fór
mar do níti an luét do ní . leir-nís opra na éreim-ní.
47. Dá n-anaó luðaró mar rin . an t-áireamh mór niohatar lib
ní biaó curó aróbríste ann . lops díreac an dá fapor-clann.
48. Socair na níos ná nís féin . níor árimhear uile go léir
ní leo do cuirfínn-re bpeir . ar árimhear díob níor árimh.
49. Na rochair móra maoróe . dá gcur i gcluarab d'aoine
féactar cia fé mbean a mbun . féactar rochair na rochair.
50. Ní mar beirtear lib-re bpeir . beirtear luét féacta ar gac
leir
féactar gac cúir i na ceart . roir all-glór ir éireact.
51. An fpeimh fa rine don tríol . níosda i bfuil i nglairm i
nsgíomh
mar concloinn munab lór lat . cumhniú qui se exaltat.
52. Níor mearair ina móó cóir . m'áireamh níos rochair a rlois
ní mó ar éroir leat a mear . an curó díob naçar árimhear.
53. Tuigim oir go raolítear lib . nac raib aet a gcuata rib
d'áireamh níos⁵ ar mo cóir⁶ . ná do fíoinneac a rochair.
54. Gíó ead ní hamlaró a-tá . an curó do fásbar san ráó
do géabá páirt dá fíor roin . im fpeasra ar glór luðaró.
55. Rís ir rochair lén doirib cur . im bmaetrib re Torra ar noul
im éiro-teact fíor níor cúirmé . amac uaim bpeir an éluice.⁶
56. Mar dearbáó ar mo ráirtib . do léigear díom san áirimh
nís 'r a rochair san bpeir gill . ar bar dtaoib uile d'Éirinn.
57. Mar rin gomaó anta d'aoib . san bpeir do bpeir le leat-
taoib
go bpeir don rgeal oile oir . 'r san féacain d'fuaé ná
d'annraet.
58. Duan a maigis don taoib rin tuaró . bar bpeasra aonar
a n-uail
muna biaó bar dtaasra ruinn . móir dá noctaim nac noct-
rainn.

¹ V. 117. ³ Clann Eibhir. ⁵ XIII. 26. ⁴ XIII. 27. ⁵ Svll.
short, mo níos ? ⁶ Metaphor from game of cards, etc. Cf. XVIII. 169 ;
XXIV. 13 ; XIV. 55 ; XV. 125 ; for cor cf. "ó tá ar cor caom-maíne
cúinn . cor gac fapor-aíme feacúinn," T. McOáire, RIA. 23 A. 30, p. 87, v.
17 ; "ní fuil éireact ann do cóir," F. ón Éaince, RIA. 23 M. 16, p. 80, v. 10 ;
ar cor na gcríoc n-eile rin," Som. Mc an Úairó, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 14.
⁷ V. 146-7. ⁸ XIV. 28

44. Were I to count the kings preceding them both in the direct line, I should not find, nor Lughaidh either, Niall to have a majority of eight.¹
45. I counted in the stock no kings with whom anyone at home or any army of foreigners shared the rule during their reign.
46. I avoid your method. I counted not as you do who make out a joint-king to be a perfect king !
47. Had Lughaidh remained satisfied to do as I, the great list which you make, the direct line of both free-races would not have given you much to boast of !
48. I did not count all the kings' "benefits" or all the kings. I will not add to what I have given. You have not told of yours as much as I have told of mine !
49. As for the great "benefits" you boast of, dinning them into people's ears, let it be seen what is their real value, what is the benefit of the "benefits" !
50. Not as you pass judgment do those pass it who regard a subject in every light, who examine every case aright, both loud talk and reality !
51. If you are discontented that the eldest stock,² kingly in blood and glory and deed, should be your rivals, reflect on "*qui se exaltat*" !³
52. You did not appreciate justly my number of kings and the "benefits" of their host, neither can you appreciate those I did not mention !⁴
53. I infer from you that you imagine that what you have heard from me of the kings⁵ and their "benefits" which I recounted, was all I had to produce.⁶
54. Yet it is not so. In my answer to Lughaidh⁷ you can find much of what I omitted.
55. When attacking Torna, at my first coming into the fight, I did not set forth the kings and "benefits" with whom it would be hard to contend, the ones to win the game !⁶
56. A proof of this is that I left uncounted the kings—with their "benefits"—who got no submission in all your part of Eire.
57. Thus, you, too, should have refrained until you saw the other side of the case, from giving partial judgment, and from having regard to hate and bias.
58. Long shall the north rue your answer which is inflaming their arrogance ! Were it not for your argument against us much that I now disclose I would not have disclosed !⁸

59. Ní mé do tpuall a maoréam · éaceta glan-uairle fadéat
 mall ip é do tionnprgan roin · maoréam éibip ip eošan.
 60. A maoréam níop tpuall mipe · ní deapnao dá n-innipe³
 aet fpeaspa ap mall i gcár éurpe · do léis toina gan cabairt.
 61. Ip eao múrslar fala i gcéin · ruim o'fioip so móp na maie
 péin
 maie cáic oile nac léip laip · map ap gnae luét an oíomair.
 62. Mó ná ap éaspar don taoib éear · dá mbeie neac comérom
 dá meap
 do éasair lušair léip dáin · do éur eapanta o'adnam.
 63. Níop labpar im éeao-glóip péin · aet ní pe oteaet toina
 ip léill
 ní peampa 'r na oteaet roin · pollup sup labair lušair
 64. Sibé lén hál déanam ríot · roip dá o'pung don fpeim ríot
 congbae so comérom a éuing⁴ · ná tušao táp ap fadp-
 éloinn.
 65. An oíomur ó eis dá éao · múrslao fala pluas pé nšaoi
 ní mian liom éaspa ap a toip · maip neapcar leip an oíomur.
 66. Tpe oíomur éáimic ap tóip · bpaéap uaiépeac léill so nóip
 map do eip ollam pé éloip · maip neapcar sup an oíomur.
 67. Le oíomur náip puitngeao lib · ap labpar i na éšao rin
 o'fip-rgealaib an taoibe i éur · maip neapcar leip an
 oíomur.
 68. Ní gšao éugam a scan rib · ní dam ap oitge leam rin
 aet cáe dá bpeaspušao ro · an oipéap o'fioip do šapma.
 69. A-deaptoair o'peam nac oib péin · eis ašneap eapman ip
 mé
 sibé heile sup ap éun · ip dé ap beite oúinn oíomóac.
 70. Ap eagla an bpeieamnap éall · ní beite oúinn náip dá
 pman
 maie dam-pa mo fpeaspa opt · maieim-pe ouit-pe a oúpaet.
 71. Maieam šac neie épádeap don · óp i deas-éoil ríot na
 naom
 šomao don toil oúinn ip oó · an pí oap léip ap n-ušo.

SO ŠEAO.

¹ XIII. 29. ² III. 10, 29. ³ Oá n- for a n- as often. ⁴ Cf. Contrib.
⁵ XIII. 30. ⁶ XIII. 34. ⁷ MSS. also eapnao.

59. I did not start the telling of the crimes ¹ of the fair nobles of the Gaedhil. Niall began boasting of Eibhear's death and Eoghan's.²
60. I did not begin the boasting ³—what you say is not a fact—I merely answered Niall in defence of Corc, an answer which Torna neglected to give.
61. What awakens hatred far and wide is that a man should value excessively his excellence, so that other's excellence is hidden from him—as is the way with proud folk !
62. Lughaidh, evidently, if a fair-minded man were to judge the matter, brought forward to cause dissension, more than what I advanced for the North.
63. In my first poem I mentioned only events before Torna and Niall. Lughaidh clearly spoke of things before them and after them.
64. He who would make peace between the two parties of the royal race should keep his scale ⁴ even, nor shame any free race.⁵
65. As pride results in the awaking of hosts' anger against their kin, I wish not to plead by appealing to it. Woe to him who fosters pride !
66. Through pride Torna was silent when he heard glorious Niall's haughty word. Woe to him who fosters pride !
67. Through pride you could not suffer what I told of the true history of the South against it (Niall's word). Woe to him who fosters pride !
68. I shall not take your words to heart. Not to me do I think them injurious, but is it fitting for one of your calling that every one should have to be contradicting them ? ⁶
69. People said that this dispute between us ⁷ did not arise from your own initiative. Whoever caused it, we should be angry with him.
70. For fear of the judgment in the next life we should not be split into two parties here. Pardon me my answer to you. I pardon your provoking it !
71. Since it is the will of the King of Saints that one should pardon those who injure one, let us have the same wish as He, the King to whom our wishes are clear.

measa do tásraib a tairis. doó ó doimnaill ect.

[Answer to V. It was written (cf. XVI. 180) before XVI., and is subsequent to XIII. (cf. XVIII. 8). The MSS. A. K². Z differ considerably in places from C. R. I follow the latter giving in the Var. Lect. the variants and omissions.]

1. Meapa do tásraib a tairis . má do féadair zac don aip
ioná Torpa an dánaoil . oroe léill ip Coirc Cairil.
2. Mairis duit 'r supab duit a mairis . do nuaró t'iomarbdáir
a tairis
roir do leir Moza a-muis . 'r an leat-ra Cuinn Céad-catais.
3. Ili fiú a gcuro d'éirinn a-noir . maicne míleat mhoise Roir
iad féin fá céile do cup . cópa dáb ríot do fnaómaó.
4. Ór í rin do b'inninn dooib . a tairis mhe d'áipe go n-aib
go b'fáctá f'neasra nár tair . truas nac na trát do tásraib.
5. Do bí pe pé bliadna deas . do dán ro éionn dá comhéat
nóir léis easla ril gCunn cáró . duit-pe d'éin-neac a
domáil.
6. Nó sup oibnead tar ráil roir . ríoté luóine 'r Tuatáil
glain
'r sup éasrao toirim a reac . do dán nóir domáir d'éin-neac.
7. Tú it don i n-aóaró pobuil . nár dooib féin a noearnabair
ní head a-máin móir an meac . tú it don i n-aóaró puibleac.
8. Ili éiofao d'éisriob Banba . ná d'feadur a n-ealaóna
d'noeacáo d'ioib 'r d'bfuil beo . leabair na héireann
d'aitéao.
9. Do fáoil mé sup léigead uib . Sabáltair Oinnreandár oil
leabair ipre innre náirt . b'ruigne Togla 'r Toemairc.
10. Leabair d'ro-máca go mbuaró . 'r ar r'fíob b'rógán tear ip
tuaró.
mairis duit nár léis na am . 'r ar r'fíob Colum ip Comgall.⁸
- II. Sceaptra innre Catáis cóir . cóir Ciapáin i gCluain mhe
nóir
leabair Moctua an éluim tair¹² . mairis nár léis pul do
labrair.
12. Do b'anta pur an taoib tuaró . ar b'péit praltac Cairil
épuaró
roir zac o'ruing don deas-fóir . o'bfuil éibip ip éireamóin.
13. Truas nár léisir na r'sceaptra . do r'fíob lám Camín
Cealtara
leabair ginn d'á loca talu . 'r leabair Tuama d'á gualann.

¹ Eire. ² 1607. ³ O'Neill, d. 1616; O'Donnell, 1608. ⁴ Leabair Sabála.

⁵ Leabair Oimr (?). ⁶ Cf. Silv. Gad. I., p. 337. ⁷ d'gallam na reanórac and other Fenian tales. Brogan was Patrick's scribe. ⁸ MSS. Mat. 374, 242; or,

1. Worse have you argued, O Tadhg,—even if you have sought arguments in every direction—than the truthful poet Torna, teacher of Niall and of Corc of Caiseal.
2. Woe to you, on you may woe fall, for renewing strife between your Mogh's Half and this Half of Conn Cead-chathach!
3. What the race of Mile of Magh Rois ¹ possess in Erin to-day is not of such worth that they should be set against each other for it! It was your duty rather to reconcile them.
4. Since your intention, my gentle Tadhg Mac Daire, was that you might get an answer that would not be feeble, a pity you did not speak soon enough!
5. For sixteen years your poem was kept in your head. Fear of blameless Conn's race prevented you from telling anyone of its existence!
6. Till the race of Iughoine and splendid Tuathal were driven East oversea,² and one after the other died there,³ you mentioned not your poem to anyone!
7. A shame for you was your attempt, you alone against a whole tribe. It was a foolish attempt too, you against many tribes!
8. Not all Banba's poets nor all the dead and all the living however great their lore could refute the books of Eire.
9. I imagined you had read the "Invasions,"⁴ the truthful "Dinnseanchus," the history books of Art's Isle,⁵ the "Courts,"⁶ the "Destructions," the "Woosings,"
10. The Book of Armagh so valuable, what Brogan⁷ wrote in the North and South. Woe to you for not having read in good time the writings of Colum and Comhghall!
11. A pity you read not previously the truthful writings of Inis Cathach,⁸ the book of Ciaran¹⁰ of Cluain Mic Nois, the book of Mochuda¹¹ of the soft¹² hair.
12. You should have abided, as the North does, by the judgment of the Psalter of Caiseal¹³ between the parties of Eibhear's and Eireamhon's goodly race.
13. A pity you read not the writings of Caimin of Inis Cealtra,¹⁴ the Book of Gleann Da Loch¹⁵ in your country and the book¹⁶ of Tuaim Da Ghualann!

reading with Z. "Conall ip Comróall," *i.e.*, Conall meann and Comróall (or Comhgan) mac óa Céard. ⁹ ? ¹⁰ MSS. Mat. 374; Eriu, iii. 227. ¹¹ I. E. Rec., xxvii. 1910. ¹² Possibly "wet," cf. Mart. Donegal, 14 May, "Roime noða veirna neac · leac a veirna vo veirnaib," but more probably "soft," a merely ornamental epithet. Cf. "a éadob nac tairc clum," Δ. McAdasáin, RIA. 23 D. 16, p. 185, v. 6; "Donnéad ó Druain an bairr tair," C. McÓairc, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 4; "voe céib tair veirna," Δ. ó Oálas, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 230. ¹³ Cf. N. I. Rev., xxv., 350 (McNeill). ¹⁴ Psalter, etc., cf. Transact. RIA. v. 92. ¹⁵ Book of Leinster. ¹⁶ ?

14. Má 'do ruḡrao bpeit le báir̃ · ollamain éireann 'éan-lám̃
dearb̃ nac ruḡrao naom̃ a-naíl · roir̃ eác̃ aét̃ bpeit̃ com̃t̃pom̃.
15. 'Do faoil eác̃ sup̃b̃ eolac̃ cóir̃ · tura ar maicne Míl̃r̃ móir̃
sup̃ eum̃ ríob̃ an reañcar̃ cam̃ · uḡdar̃ ḡac̃ neac̃ ḡo lab̃ranñ.¹
16. Mí bur̃deac̃ 'diot-ra ríol̃ ḡCunñ · 'diom̃d̃ac̃ ríol̃ nOiliol̃
Óluim̃
ní bar̃r̃ meara 'don t̃aoib̃ t̃ear̃ · a ḡclor̃ uaiḡ-re 'oot̃ aig̃near̃.
17. Roi-binñ sup̃ an t̃aoib̃-re t̃uair̃ · a t̃ar̃os̃ ḡac̃ a ḡclum̃id̃ uaiḡ
dearb̃ leo ḡo ḡclaoir̃r̃t̃ear̃ ríob̃ · ó 'r̃eim̃ éig̃iñ 'd̃a n-éig̃r̃ib̃.
18. Cair̃feaõ féiñ mo ḡa ríob̃-re · ḡo ḡceaõ 'da bar̃ n-éig̃r̃i-re
'd̃a 'ñdeac̃ ra lár̃ níor̃ ḡñac̃ roiñ · t̃mar̃ḡraim̃ laoc̃ ionñ ḡac̃
ior̃ḡail̃.
19. T̃ruaḡ nac̃ ar̃ an ḡa'oõ éleac̃t̃mé · ḡé t̃ú-ra i n-eap̃r̃m̃ 'aoir̃e ²
r̃é'oõ roḡa Munñneac̃ óñ Máig̃ · a t̃ar̃os̃ t̃ar̃la ar̃ n-iom̃ar̃b̃ar̃õ.
20. 'Do bíad̃ a céanñ leam̃-ra im̃ lám̃ · r̃ul̃ 'do r̃éaõr̃ar̃de ar̃
n-eap̃r̃áiñ
ir̃ e'p̃ú a é'por̃de ar̃ mo ḡa ḡlar̃ · 'd̃iall̃ad̃ ³ 'ouinẽ re a 'd̃ú't̃ear̃.
21. 'Do b̃ear̃uinñ an t̃iac̃ t̃uḡ Conñ · ar̃ eog̃añ Mór̃ um̃ an b̃ponñ
nó an t̃iac̃ fuair̃ Conñaol̃ caiñ · ó t̃iḡear̃nñmar̃ mac̃ f̃oll̃aig̃.
22. M̃ó an t̃iol̃ 'do r̃aõ í'p̃ail̃ f̃áir̃ · ar̃ éeac̃r̃ar̃ mac̃ éib̃ir̃ áiñ
nó an t̃iol̃ 'do r̃aõ f̃ór̃ an r̃ear̃ · éiream̃h̃oñ ap̃o ar̃ éib̃ear̃.
23. 'o'luḡoinẽ m̃ear̃ m̃eanm̃nac̃ m̃ór̃ · r̃inñr̃ear̃ r̃ar̃ob̃ir̃ na r̃ár̃-r̃l̃os̃
'do m̃ionñuig̃ ríol̃ éib̃ir̃ f̃inñ · ḡañ cup̃ r̃é éloinñ um̃ éip̃unñ.
24. Éia'oõ éloinñ luḡoinẽ a-nuar̃ · fuar̃ḡail̃ 'd̃am̃ an é'ip̃rõ ḡañ é'p̃iar̃
'd̃ár̃ ḡab̃ t̃eam̃air̃ na 'ot̃r̃ear̃ 'ote ⁷ · aét̃ r̃áit̃ 'o'luḡoinẽ
'o'oiḡrẽ.⁸
25. Mar̃ r̃átaib̃ ar̃ a ḡconñr̃aõ · ḡac̃ aoñ 'oúil̃ buí ḡá b̃roḡnam̃
éar̃ḡa ir̃ ḡp̃añ ḡañ 'ool̃ 'd̃é ⁹ · m̃uir̃ir̃ t̃ir̃ t̃uilẽ ir̃ aité̃b̃e.
26. 'Do ríol̃ luḡoinẽ ar̃ buañ bíad̃ · r̃íoiḡraõ uair̃lẽ na h̃álbañ
le Séam̃ur̃ anú ma le · Sa'ra álba aḡur̃ éirẽ.
27. 'D̃a ríol̃ f̃ór̃ i ñéip̃unñ uill̃ · Or̃r̃ar̃dẽ laig̃iñ leac̃ éuinñ
'd̃ál̃ b̃ríatac̃ 'D̃ál̃ Ríaõa a-le · 'D̃air̃ḡnẽ M̃úr̃ḡar̃dẽ 'D̃éirẽ.
28. 'D̃a n-añ'aoair̃ i mbuñ ¹² a ḡḡaoil̃ · ríol̃ laoiḡairẽ ir̃ Cob̃éaig̃
Caoil̃
'do bíad̃ ḡá r̃l̃ioét̃ ḡo b̃r̃ac̃ mbinñ ¹³ · iom̃áiñ éiñ-leic̃te ar̃
éip̃unñ.

¹ Cf. "már fíor̃ ir̃ uḡdar̃ ḡac̃ neac̃ . ḡo lab̃airẽ . . ." RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 3. ² 8. 6 syll. in couplet. ³ "as̃ 'd̃iall̃ re h̃air̃ib̃ oilẽ,"

t̃. m̃c̃Óáipẽ, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 30, v. 1. ⁴ K II. 120. ⁵ K II. 118. ⁶ K II. 104.

⁷ Cf. "ní bíoir̃ ḡáill̃ na ḡḡleõ 'otẽ," 'Dom̃. m̃c̃Óáipẽ, RIA. 23 D. 14, p. 135, v. 19. ⁸ Cf. "a r̃áit̃ 'o'oiḡrẽ ar̃ éiñr̃l̃ig̃r̃õ," "o'éir̃ r̃aoir̃-r̃eilt̃ẽ éac̃ i

ḡc̃éiñ . a r̃áit̃ 'o'aoim̃-eiḡrẽ ainñr̃éiñ," t̃. m̃c̃Óáipẽ, RIA. 23 C. 18, p. 66, v. 20; L. 37, p. 206, v. 33; "r̃áit̃ i 'd̃ál̃aig̃ 'do 'd̃am̃na añ · 'D̃om̃ñall̃ 'r̃eac̃ na'ap̃r̃õa: r̃áit̃ añ 'd̃onñ-aḡar̃õ f̃inḡ r̃éiñ · 'd̃ar̃ linñ 'o'llam̃aiñ ainñr̃éiñ," f̃. óñ éám̃te, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 24. ⁹ Cf. "t̃uilẽ r̃áit̃ ḡañ 'oiḡḡad̃õ

14. Even if Eire's sages together gave biased judgment, certainly the saints of old gave just judgment between all.
15. Everyone thought you would be wise and fair about great Mile's race until you composed your perverse history. "Everyone is a writer till he writes!"¹
16. Conn's race thanks you not; Oilill's is angry with you. No crown of honour to the South is the argument you have given us!
17. The North likes to hear you. They feel confident that you shall be destroyed by some of their poets!
18. With all deference to your poesy I too will cast my dart at you. If it fall vainly to the earth that will surprise me. I overthrow a hero in every fight.
19. A pity 'tis not with the spear to which I am used—though I am now at the end of my days—that our combat is to be fought with the pick of your men of Mumha from the Maigh!
20. His head would soon be in my hands before anyone could separate us, and his heart's blood on my steel-blue spear. "Let each one follow³ his natural bent."
21. I would treat him as Conn treated Eoghan fighting for the land, or as Tighearnmhas son of Follach treated good Connmhaol!⁴
22. Or as Irial Faidh treated Eibhear Fionn's⁵ four sons, or as the great hero Eireamhon treated Eibhear!⁶
23. Eibhear Fionn's race swore to great quick-spirited Iughoine, rich ancestor of the splendid host, never to contest Eire with his descendants.
24. Answer me this simple question, was there any of Iughoine's race, of those who ruled Teamhair of the fierce⁷ fights, who was not a fit⁸ heir of Iughoine?
25. Sureties for their pact were all the elements that served them, moon and un-waning sun,⁹ sea and land, flood and ebb.¹⁰
26. Of Iughoine's ever-glorious stock are the princes of the nobility of Alba. To James¹¹ belong to-day England Alba Eire.
27. Of his seed too in great Eire are the Osraidhe, the Laighin, all Leath Cuinn, Dal bhFiatach, Dal Riada too, Baisgne, Musgraidhe, Deise.
28. Had the races of Laoghaire and Cobhthach Caol stood faithful to their kin,¹² their race would have been supreme over half of Eire till the judgment day!¹³

óí," S. mc an bDapó, RIA. 23 C. 33, v. 47; or "not to depart from, be false to it," cf. "ní háit dom do bual síre," T. mcDáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 31; also "céirí don éireoí," XV. 17. ¹⁰ Magh Rath, p. 1. ¹¹ James I. ¹² Cf. "fan mbun na bpréire-pe," T. mcDáire, RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 128, v. 31. ¹³ "Hill-judgment"? (beann taken as o-stem), cf. "lá an tpréire," etc.; perhaps influenced by "Fo bini braith," LL., cf. Contrib.; cf. also "co mbrath mbrudin," S. Rann. 931.

29. Do gábrat laighníg do lámh • coris na munhneac meap ón
máig
dā bfaḡḡaoir uata gá uoiḡ • ríot ó ríol tuatail teactmair.
30. Díob atáir cinn-litpe ceall • ir ur-mhór apó-naom éireann
'r ir díob amú 'r an-allan • rḡot éigear ir ollamhan.
31. leat cuinn ir leat mloḡa mair • do faoirpeao luēt an eolair
sur comērom an roinn-pe a-le • sur labhair a mlic dáipe.
32. lí cian do fan ríol ḡcuinn ḡcáir • ar an roinn-pe o'lmr fáil
dā nḡoirceap leir mloḡa a-muig • 'r an leat-ra cuinn céao-
cācāig.
33. ḡeapir iar rin ar maig léana • do plán a tairḡs á fēana
sur bean conn o'eoḡan ḡan feill • a ceann ir a curo o'éirinn.
34. um ērācnoḡa mair an ḡcat • do ēroē eoḡan apó eācāc
teacta cuinn ar oteact dā toig • dā mac cpmōcainn a
Cpuacain.
35. nār ōuit a mād dā éir rin • nac mairbe corōnac Cairil
ar a comēao ar conn cōir • o'ér a nḡeapna air o'ēasḡoir.
36. mó bap o'táirpíom ar cloinn cuinn • mair ar léir ro laorō
leactrom
ionā ar don o'reim don deaḡ-fōir • o'āicme oile éireamhōin.
37. Do bēapuin comairle cōir • dā mair do leir mloḡa mōir
mār tú file ar fearr dā nōam • do coris fearo a o'iomairbāir.
38. Muna nḡeapna riad-ran rin • nā bíō o'puiinn aḡ aibir
éigre fíl cuinn na ḡcupao • fa bap mbéig do bḡeasnuḡao.
39. luḡarō a o'tuarō torpa a nḡeap • bíō nac mair o'pna aincēap
oiar ar laige do labair • don leir-pe cuinn comḡamāig.
40. ar labair luḡarō ḡo tair • tuḡ air ní deapbarō eolair
aēt bāir pe leir mloḡa a-muig • bean don mluḡain a mātair.
41. ḡrō í mātair m'atāir fēin • inḡean í bḡuain fa mair mēin
ran cōir nār taḡmā mām rōir • uair ní éirōpinn an éasḡoir.
42. Cia díob ba fearr i nḡac dāil • ar o'tuatai do teact éipe
mā coris ólum ḡan ceilt • 'r sur com-aoir iao na nōibeir.
43. Carōe do tuatai teactmair • ar o'tilleao dō dā eactra
ceannar éireann ar ḡac leir • do ḡab le beaḡan burōne.
44. Do nairḡ tuatai 'r do fealbāig • ar uairlib dānda í
o'teamraig
ḡan cup ré cloinn ḡo bḡāc mbinn • oipeao bíar mair um
éirinn.
45. Tuinḡreao uile dā éir rin • don mḡs-pe o'aitēapḡ éin-fir
oiamaoir com-neap ríol na bḡeap • nabaoir com-ēap
ré cloinn-pean.

¹ Magh Leana, pp. 94-
⁴ VII. 4. ⁵ K II. 244.

² V. 163.

29. The Laighin undertook to quell the active men of Mumha from the Maigh if they could get peace for their own land from Tuathal Teachtmhar's race.
30. Among the Northerns are the capitals of the Churches. Of them too are the noble high-saints of Eire ; of them now and of old are the choice of poets and sages.
31. Learned folk thought Conn's Half and fair Mogh's Half were equal parts till you spoke, Mac Daire !
32. Only a year did this division of Inis Fail last, called Mogh's Half and Conn Ceadchathach's Half.
33. Soon after on Magh Leana—I defy you to deny it—Conn took fairly from Eoghan his life and his share of Eire.
34. The evening before the battle, noble violent Eoghan hanged Conn's messengers, the two sons of Criomhthann of Cruachain when they came to his tent.¹
35. Shame for you to say ² after that that Caiseal's prince was not on his guard against fair Conn, after inflicting that injury on him !
36. Greater is your abuse of Clann Cuinn—as is clear from your bitter poem—than of any other family of Eireamhon's good stock.
37. I shall give a piece of advice to all who are alive of Leath Mogh. If you are their best poet they should stop you from arguing !
38. If they do not, let them not blame us, poets of the race of Conn of the heroes, for refuting your lies !
39. Lughaidh in the North, Torna in the South—though they were not ignorant—are the two of victorious Conn's Half who spoke most mildly.
40. What made Lughaidh mild was not dearth of knowledge, but love for your Mogh's Half. A woman of Mumha was his mother.⁴
41. Though my father's mother was daughter of good-hearted O'Briain, I will not stand your unjust pleading of a case never pleaded before.
42. Which was the better man arriving here, our Tuathal who got possession of Eire, or famous Corb Olum, they both having been the same time in exile ?
43. Where is your Tuathal Teachtmhar who, returning after his adventures, seized with only a few followers the complete sovereignty of Eire !
44. Tuathal bound strongly Eire's nobles at Teamhair never to contest with his race while the sea surrounds Eire.
45. They all then swore to the king—at the bidding of this one man—that even if their seed should have equal power, they never would have equal claims with his race.⁵

46. Níorbú ionann i leabhairb rin · teiprú míoghráð fleaceta éirib
ir teiprú na bfeap nár deapóil · míoghráð fleaceta éireamóin.
47. Ré linn ba roimníeac ríona · o'eişreacét¹ ré linn oá ríola
ioét ir bliocét iarş aşur meap · do bíoró do şnát na bfeaitéap.
48. Carde do Conaire ar éreoir · deaş-mac áluinn éroirşeoil
raimail a fleata léiş oam · i-muiş ro míoghráð Mumhan.
49. Ffeasair oam şan taom tñúda · carde do Conn mac ūna
pe n-a linn níorbú deaş an raét · tuş talam topað céasac.
50. Cia do deaprað şeall² Cormaic · do ríocét şaoiróil şlan-
opómaic
şé do éoghair air mar oil · a éur fa şabail o'fíacáir.
51. Mimic do léiş tupa péin · ar mac airt an airim aitéşir
lion a deaşlaiş éall na éiş · caoşa ar míle do míltib.
52. Do b'iomda mac míogş şo raét · bádair n-a pé ar a deallac
o'Éirinn ir tar muiş a-noir · do b'innéapra péet fíacáir.
53. Cormac ba cunnail a máit · ba paol ba file ba fleait
ba fíir-breiteam feap bpeine · ba capa ba coisécite.
54. Cormac po élaol caoşar caét · po ríolaiş⁶ paltair Teamraét
'r ní feul pa paltair şo raét · şur bupir t'fíacáir-pe dom-éat.
55. Dar liom péin níorbú éumta oúib · opraoréacét an trean-opraor
Moş Ruit
i nOpum Oamşaire na noam · 'r naét raib annirín aét
raibpað.
56. Cá háit i bfeul don taob éiar · do miall laoi-şiallac mar
miall
oá tocuş ó Muir nloét a-noir · şéill şac típe şo Teamraiş.
57. Faşam leat raimail do ūman · mac eacac muiş-meaoóin
éiar
óir ríolpað i bfeur şan aét · na teopa caoma Connaét.
58. Carde do Óaití-pe a éaróş · do éuaró şo Şiaib nEalpa n-air
oar bupreao leir caoşa caét · mar Óaití móir mac fíacraét.
59. Nó fíacra aéair Óái-Éí · oáirb ua Oilill Moit an rí
cáit i bfeul leat a deiş-fíir · raimail şuair an şairm-eimş.¹²
60. Carde do Conall mac Néill · nó éoşan an airim aitéşir
ir a ríocét rin maét a méro · faşam aşat a leitéro.

¹² Deişreacét MSS. ² Cf. "do şeall léim bapto do beapraoi," p. ón éainte, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 149, v. 42. ³ III. 31; VI. 119. ⁴ Tadhg takes this

to refer to Cionnaoth O Hartagain's poem, "Domhan ouéam," etc., O'R. lxiii.

⁵ Cf. K. Meyer, Todd Lect. XVI. viii. 3. ⁶ "Síolam" often as "I publish," etc. Cf. Todd Lect., vol. viii., part i., p. 62; also "níceap ríolap a feamóir," O'Grady, Cat., p. 555.

⁷ From Cuan O Lothchain's poem, B.B. f. 89; MSS. Mat., p. 10.

⁸ V. 174, 177. ⁹ Cf. Onomasticon. ¹⁰ K II. 412.

¹¹ K II. 42. ¹² Cf. "an cú şairmeimş móir-featş," C.Z. ii. 344; also A.U. 1197.

46. Very different in the books are the account of the kingly lines of Eibhear's race, and the account of those splendid heroes kings of Eireamhon's stock !
47. In their day the seasons were prosperous being assigned (to them) as a birth-right in their day.¹ Corn and milk fish and fruit were abundant in their reign.
48. Where is, as regards strength, your Conaire Eidirsceol's fair goodly son ? Read for me anything like his reign among your Munha princes !
49. Answer me without envy. Where is your Conn son of Una. In his day—great was the blessing—the earth gave its fruits a hundred-fold.
50. Who could surpass ² Cormac of all the race of bright famous Gaodhal ? though you put on him the reproach of having been put under the cauldron's hanger by Fiacha.³
51. You yourself often read ⁴ of sharp-armed Art's son, how in his palace his household counted a thousand and fifty heroes.
52. Many a prosperous prince's son fit to be compared to Fiacha from Eire and from over-sea were to be found in his palace in his day.
53. " Constant was Cormac's goodness, he was a sage, a poet, a prince, a just judge of the Fene ⁵ men, a good friend and companion.
54. Cormac won fifty battles, he wrote ⁶ the " Psalter of Teamhair." ⁷ There is no word in that precious Psalter that Fiachaidh won any battle !
55. I think you should not have invented your story of the wizardry of the old druid Moghruith ⁸ at oxen-rich Druim Damhghaire, seeing that it was all superstition !
56. Where in the West have you a Niall like our Niall Naoi-ghiallach when to Teamhair he brought hostages from every land from Muir nIocht in the East.
57. Let us hear of your having the like of Brian son of Eochaidh Muighmheadhon in the west, from whom beyond dispute came the three fair divisions of the Connachta.⁹
58. Where is your Dathi who marched to the lofty Alps and won fifty battles, our great Dathi son of Fiachra ? ¹⁰
59. Or Fiachra, Dathi's father, whose grandson Oilill Molt ¹¹ was king ? Where have you, my good friend, one like Guaire called the " hospitable " ? ¹²
60. Where is your Conall, Niall's son, or your sharp-bladed Eoghan and their numerous stock ? Let us find their like with you !

61. Carde do clann Colmáin éadoin • nó do fliocht doú Sláine
 fadair
 veadair a gcaitpém do céilt • clanna léill dána an veig-
 céirt.
62. Carde do trí Colla éruaró • lé mbeaptdoi ann nḡac beapnaro
 buaró
 nó commaidé a pleadta roin • roir Éirinn ir Albain.
63. Carde do Miall fporac féig • fuair ó Óia ar a veig-péir
 fpar airtro ir fpar do mil • ir fpar do éruitneadé éadoin-ḡil.
64. Carde bar nalongur aḡra • mac maid an éarraig¹ éalma
 nó Maoil-feacluinn re díol dām • nó mac Dálais éigneadán.
65. A haon ir trí fícro píḡ • ma gcepteam ór Éirinn dōinn
 beas re píom na bpoḡair roin • mairḡ do maoir do feadé
 gceatpair.
66. Sé píḡ 'r dā fícro píog péil • ór Éirinn do veig-pleadé léill
 ó teadé an táilḡinn tar tuinn • gur an bfiop-plaé Maoil-
 feacluinn.
67. Mior ḡab ní d'ér éreoin éoir • d'fuir ír Éibir Éireamóin
 adé fuil léill ir Oilill Moit • 'r do brian-ra le ro-
 cumadé.
68. Ir teapc má do ftoinneadó ruam • an tír-re iona bfuineann
 ḡruan
 mar ftoinntear mūr an miod-óil • ó píogpao píil Éireamóin.
69. ḡoirtear Teadé Tuatail d'Éirinn • Cró Cuinn ir Fonn fonn-
 féirum
 laé luḡoine ir Adad Airt • Críod Cōbtais ir Clár Cormaid.
70. Corpao móir ar trí míle • píomtar tria péim inpíme⁵
 ó teadé mac Mílead a-noir • dār ḡabpao Éirinn iubraig.
71. Re otionnrḡnam teampuill Solma • canaim ríḡ ráir ḡan
 volbado
 táimḡ clann Mílead tar muir • an tpeap doir d'aoirab
 domain!
72. Do bí uplām⁷ na Banba • aḡ cloinn Mílead móir-éalma
 ó rin ḡan roinn re púire • ḡo hamrír brian bōpumhe.
73. Ceitpe fícro ceitpe céad • do bliadnab ní hiomarbúeas
 ó díbeirt píil Mloḡa a-muig • romainn píol ḡCunn Céad-
 éadais.
74. An tan do b'aoir do érioirt éeapc • ré céad míle aḡur
 peadé
 do díbpead píol ḡCunn tar muir • 'r do beandó díob a
 nōútais.

¹ "The Scabby man," i.e., Donnchadh Ua Maoilsheachluinn. Chr. Scot. 967, A.U. 1000, 4 M. 1000. ² King of Cineal Conaill. ³ Cf. poem "Éire Óḡ." Todd Lect. iii., p. 427. ⁴ 1700 B.C.+1600 A.D.=3300. ⁵ Cf. Laws. Gloss.

61. Where is your race of gentle Colman, or your stock of noble Aodh Slaine ? It is hard to belie the glory of bold righteous Niall's races !
62. Where are your three hardy Collas who conquered in every fray, or any race equal to them in Eire or Alba ?
63. Where is your keen Niall Frosach who owing to his fair-rule got from God a shower of silver, a shower of honey and a shower of fair white corn ?
64. Where is your noble Aongus, goodly son of the brave " Carrach,"¹ or Maoilsheachluinn generous in paying poets, or Eigneachan,² Dalach's son ?
65. There were sixty-one kings of our race in Eire before the coming of the Faith. Few, compared to them, are—I pity you for mentioning them—your twenty-eight !
66. Forty-six kings of Niall's good stock surely ruled Eire from Patrick's coming over-sea till the true prince Maoilsheachluinn.
67. After the coming of the Faith, of the races of Ir Eibhear and Eireamhon no king ruled except the race of Niall and Oilill Molt—and your too-powerful Brian.³
68. Rare were the (other) names given to this land where the sun sets compared to the way in which " the Fort of Mead-feasts " is called after the kings of Eireamhon's race.
69. Eire is called " House of Tuathal," " Conn's Steading," " Land of fair Feilim," " Land of Iughoine," " Art's Field," " Cobhthach's Territory," " Cormac's Plain."
70. Over three thousand years⁴ are counted in the worthy⁵ records from the coming of Mile's sons from the East when they acquired yewy Eire.
71. Before the beginning of Solomon's⁶ Temple—I state to you a plain tale—Mile's race came over the sea in the third age of the world.
72. Power⁷ over Banba was held from that time by brave Mile's race which shared it with no prince, till the time of Brian Boromhe.
73. For four hundred and eighty years⁸ at least, your Mogh's race was exiled by us the race of Conn.
74. In the year of just Christ sixteen hundred and seven Conn's race was driven over-seas and their country taken from them.

rimde." ⁶Cf. Arch. Celt. Lex. iii. p. 24. § 13. ⁷Cf. Wind. Wört. " air-lam "; also " map tá pí i reilb sac cuine . 'r san í 'n-urilám éanrouine," Som. mc an Baidro, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 5. ⁸From death of last Eberian King (Crimhthann) 378 till 1000 there were 622 years.

75. Céad uroail a nouðairc mé • a-ðéarainn doaidh an uair-re
 áct nac roic i n-doin-ðeact uaim • a ðfairnéir uile i n-don-
 uair.¹
76. Dá sclauntear don focal uaidh • doo ðréasaidh don daoid-re
 tuaidh
 cluinfeðear d'fírinne ðear • céad oíreath sáð ar áirnear.

measa do.

75. A hundred times what I have said, I would tell you now, except that I cannot at the one time recount it all.¹
76. If we hear a single one of your falsehoods about the North, you Southernns shall hear a hundred times as much as I have told you !

¹Cf. " ní Δ η-δενρετ πο ποιό uile . οά έαιρηέρ le hæn ouine," Magh Rath. p. 166.

ḡÉ SAOILE A ṪAÍŲḡ NAĆ DEARNAS. R. McARTÚIR,
O.S.F., ccc.

- I. ḡÉ SAOILE A ṪAÍŲḡ NAĆ DEARNAR · RANN DON DÁN FÁR ḡLUAIR
Ṫ'FEARḡ-ṪA,
ÍR ḡO B'FUILE AS IOMĆUR RUIINN · DAP LEAT AMAIL NAĆ OIONḡ-
nuinn,
2. 'Ṫ ḡO BÉAL-ĆRÁIBṪEAC AP TOPAC · AP AN AIBÍŲ DO ṪOḡAR
AP RON ḡO ḡḡEALLA MOŲ ŲAM · ŲÚINN NÍ FUIL Ó LEIṪ MOḡAŲ ;
3. DO B'ṪÍḡ ḡO ḡCUIPE-PE 'M LEIṪ · NAĆAM DON ṪÓIR NÁ DON ĆPEIĆ ³
'Ṫ ḡURI LEAN AN PAOḡAL 'Ṫ A MEANḡ · IPTEAC PAN OPTO I B'FUILEAM
4. FOAL DOŲ ṪÉX NAĆ ṪUIḡIM · ASUR APÚR ḡO B'FUILIM
AÍṪPEAC ṪAPPNA IM ĆPEABAC · LUAIṪ-B'PEIṪEAC ÍR LEIṪ-B'PEACAC
5. NAP ĆONḡBAP ḡO CEAPṪ MO ĆUINḡ · AS DOĹ ṪAP MOŲ RIAḡLA
AN IPŲO
'Ṫ AS ḡPEANNUḡAŲ M'UIPO ḡAN ṪLÁR · I MEŲO UABAIR ḡOLÁR ¹¹
6. ÍR ḡAM FÁMLUḡAŲ PE DÁM · AP ŲÍOMĀOIN ṪOIRḡ PAN EAPAC
ÓR Í RIN DO ṪUIḡPE A ṪAÍŲḡ · AN FOIĆ ¹³ NEMĪNEAC BÍOP ŲÁ
ĆAILḡ, ¹⁴
7. DO ĆPOṪAŲ ŲE AP AN DÁM ¹⁵ · NÍOP ĆÓIR A ĆUR I N-IONḡNAC.
DO ĆIONNṪḡNAR MO ĆASPA Ó ĆÚR · DO ĆUR DO ĆONĪMEAPA AP
ḡCÚĹ
8. DÁ ĆLAOI RIN ÍR Ṫ-UABAIR ŲNA. ¹⁶ · NÍOM OIRPAM ṪPEABÁ ṪAPPNA
NÍ MOŲ DO RINNAP DOMNÍ · A MĪC ŲÁIPE MAP MĀOIRŲĆÍ
9. I N-ASARŲ CEACṪAP ŲÍOB RIN · MO RIAḡLA NÁ MO ĆPEIŲIM.
DÁ NDEARNAINN 'Ṫ DON ṪÍ NÁR FÉAC · NA ŲÍARŲ AP ḡCUIR LÁMĪE
AP ĆEACṪ
10. DO B'IONĆAÍMĪE AN ĆLOĆ DAP LINN · ḡO RO-ŲÁNA FÁM ṪUAIPIIM.
DEARNACAC ŲAOIB-PE NAĆ É · CÉAC-FOĆAP AIPMĪE AP DO F'PÉMĪ
11. AN ROĆAP RIN FUAIRAP FÉIM · UACÁ MAP EAC F'PÍĆ EI-FÉIM
CEAṪUIḡṪEAC ASAB ḡO B'FUIL · COPE ÍR FÍOL ĆÍBIR ḡO RŲIM
12. NAĆ PAIB I ḡCPEIṪEAM ĆPÍOPT ĆÁRŲ · DO ĆOPNAM I N-IONAPBÁRŲ
ASUR MIRE DO ŲAMNAC · ṪPÉ ṪOPNA AN Ṫ-ÉIḡEAP AMĪPA
13. NAĆ PAIBE ŲUIT-PE MAP FÍOP · NA ĆPÍOPTARŲE DO ĆONĪ-ŲÍON.
ḡÉ ŲEIPIM RIN DO B'ÉOIR · ṪPÉ BAP MBAOIṪE IM FUIL NĒBIR

¹ XIV. 69. ² XIV. 1. ³ XIV. 22, cf. the same words used with different senses, "baŲ cPEAC ḡAN ṪÓIR ṪIME NA ṪAOIB" "irreparable ruin," A. Ó ŲÁLAIS, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 4; "ní cPEAC ḡAN ṪÓIR Ó ŲĀNNAIS," poem "ní ŲUAL ḡAN ĆUINĪE," by MAC CON Ó ĆLEINḡ, TCD. 1281. ⁴ XIV. 36. ⁵ XIV. 41. ⁶ XIV. 34, 35. ⁷ XIV. 2. ⁸ XIV. 32. ⁹ XIV. 33, 37. ¹⁰ XIV. 23. ¹¹ "ḡOLÁR" is trisyllable. ¹² XIV. 22. ¹³ Cf. "foiĆ AP FOĹUAMĪM," 3 S.; "FO ĆOPPMĀILEAP FOIĆEAC F'PÍBÉAC A B'PUIINIB BEACĹANN," 4 M. 2224; O'Dav. gives "Foich" "attack." ¹⁴ "PE LINN FÍŲ NÓ I ḡCAILḡ COḡARŲ," RIA. 23 F. 16, p. 202, v. 18. ¹⁵ syll. short. ¹⁶ ? MSS. ŲONA. ¹⁷ XIV. 33, 37-
¹⁸ XIV. 3.

[A detailed answer to XIV. The poem is superscribed in RIA. B. iv. 1, "αν τ-αρρεαρσπο ο μαολκοναιμε εεε." to which C. O Conor of Belanagare (who owned the MS.) added "γενεαδ φλαιοιρι. A.D. 1560 ; Δ ες A.D.1629 ; Δ εοςδ να αρρεαρσπος 1608," but from internal evidence and from the other MSS. the poem is certainly by R. McArthur.]

1. Though you think, Tadhg, that I did not write¹ a single verse of the poem that angers you, and though you act towards me as, you know, I would not act towards you,
2. and, though hypocritically in the beginning of your poem you promised to respect me owing to the habit I have chosen,² none of that respect is shown me by Leath Mogha ;
3. because you say against me that I belong not to the pack or the quarry ;³ that the world and its vanities have followed me into the Order in which I am ;⁴
4. that I do not understand a word of your text ;⁵ that I am insolent,⁶ crooked in my ploughing,⁷ given to rash and biassed judgments ;⁸
5. and that I have not kept properly my vows ;⁹ as you speak of the moderation enjoined by the rule of my Order, (?) and bid fierce defiance to my Order¹⁰ in the greatness of pride of a Goliath,¹¹
6. and compare me to the ox which has nothing to do at milking time,¹²—since such was your disposition, Tadhg, it was not strange of the ox
7. that the swarm¹³ stinging¹⁴ him should be shaken off by him ! (?) I began my argument by refuting your " comparison,"
8. destroying it as well as your pride. I am no " ploughman of crooked ploughing " nor have I done anything, as you say, son of Daire,
9. against either my rule or my religion.¹⁷ Had I done so, it is the man who has not looked behind him after putting his hand to the plough,¹⁸
10. who should have boldly cast the stone, I believe, against me ! You forget that the first " benefit " that you attribute to your line of kings
11. is not the one (*i.e.*, Christianity) which you say you got from them (if so be that you got it from them at all!) and you therefore think yourself entitled to defend in this contention Corc and Eibhear's race up to him
12. who had not the faith of adorable Christ, and (at the same time) to condemn me, because the noble poet Torna
13. who was not—according to you—a Christian, is defended by me ! Though I say that, possibly in your crazy love of Eibhear's race

14. ὅσο μεαρταοι-ρε ἃ μβεῖτ ριν • ρε ηγεῖν Ἐπίορτ 'να ἡερίορ-
ταῖοτιβ̄.
μ'αῖμαρρυρ νοῦα η-ιονῆαθ̄ • ὅρρ ιρ ριβ̄ ρέιν ἄρ ἔιονταῖ
15. ράν ἡεονταῖορρ ι β̄ρρὶλ μέ • εἰα ἄρ ἃ ὅταῖορρ Ἐπίορταῖορ
ἀν τρᾶτ̄ μεαρραρ τυρἃ ἃ Ἐαῖος̄ • ἀιν-ἔπίορταῖορ ὅε ὅρ
ἡαῖρρμ
16. Τορρνα εἶζεαρ λέρ ηαῖομᾶθ̄ • ἐρεροεαῖν Ἐπίορτ 'ρ να η-αρρ
ἀρρταλ
ἀῖμαλ ἄρ ρολλυρ ὅο ἔᾶῖ • ιρ ιν ρανν ὀύντα ὅον ὀάν
17. ἄρ ἃ ηῖοερρμᾶρρ ὀαρ λεατ ρέιν • ἀιτ̄ῖεοῖ ἡάρ̄ εἰρρῖε ιο
ἔαιτ̄ρῖεμ̄.
Ἀῖτ̄ μαῖο ἀινῖερρομῖεᾶῖ ἀῖμαλν • ἡό ἀν λυῖτ̄ ῖέρο ὅον ἐρεροεαῖν
ἔᾶρρ
18. εἰα λέν τυαλαηῆς ἃ ῖυηῆε • ηαῖ ὅον ἐρεροεαῖν ἐπίορταῖορ
αῖοῖμαλ εἰρρῖρῆε ἡῖο ὀέ • ἄς̄ εἰρ ὀιμβρῖῆς̄ ραν μβῖτ̄ ῖέ
19. 'ρ αῖοῖμαλ εἰρρῖρῆε να ἡεορρρ • ι ἡεοῖῖῖᾶλ Ἐπίορτ να ἡεοῖᾶῖτ̄
μαρ ὅο ρῖννε ἀν ρεανῖορ ραορ • Τορρνα ἄρ ρυς̄ ρᾶῖορρῖς̄
ἡαοῖν
20. ἄρ μβᾶρ ἡῖῖῖῖ ἄς̄υρ ὀᾶῖῖ • ἀῖμαλ ιρ ρυς̄ ἄρ ὀιρῖν
ὅο βα ρῖνε ἡᾶ Τορρνα • 'ρ ὅο ἐρῖο ι ηῖῖᾶ ρορρῖῖᾶ ;
21. Μῖνα ηῖοῖῖῖῖ ριβ̄ ὅο ηῖᾶθ̄ • ἄρ ῖ-υῖῖῖᾶρρ ρέιν ὅο ρῖαρ
ὅο ρανν ὀεῖρῖῖ ἀν ὀᾶῖα • ηαῖ ἔ Τορρνα ἄρ βαρᾶῖῖᾶ.
22. ιρ ὀᾶ ηῖοῖῖῖῖ ριβ̄-ρε ριν • βαῖ ιοῖῖῖᾶ ἡῖᾶ ἄς̄υρ ρῖρ
ἄς̄ ροῖορρῖεαῖ ὀα ἡᾶῖ λῖῖτ̄ • ὀρᾶῖβ̄ ρᾶῖ ὀεαρρμᾶῖ εἰνῖνε
23. ἡᾶν ἃ ὀῖῖῖῖᾶῖ ἄρ τορρᾶῖς̄ • ηαῖ ἔ Τορρνα ἀν τρᾶοι ρορρᾶῖλ
ὅο ρῖννε ἀον ρανν ὅον ὀάν • ὁ ρᾶρ βῖνν λῖβ̄ ἃ ῖοῖρᾶῖῖ.
24. ἡᾶρῖβ̄ υρᾶ ριν ρῖᾶῖᾶ ρέιν • ὅο εἰρ λῖτ̄ ινντῖεᾶῖτ̄ ι ἡεῖῖῖ
ὅο να ὀαοῖνῖβ̄ λῖ να βῖνν • βῖῖτ̄ ἄς̄ εἰρτῖεᾶῖτ̄ ρῖῖῖ ῖοῖνντῖνν
25. ιοῖᾶ ρᾶῖ ὀᾶ η-αβρᾶῖ ριβ̄ • ἀν ὀάν ἄτᾶ ι μβῖᾶλ ἡᾶῖ ρῖρ
ἡομαῖ ἡῖ Τορρνα εἰρρ ὀέ • 'ρ ηαῖ βαῖ λῖρ ἀν εἰρρ
εἰῖε ;
26. ἡᾶν ὅο ὀεαρρῖᾶῖ ραν ρῖῖῖῖῖῖ • να β̄ρρῖῖῖῖῖ ἡῖρᾶβ̄ λῖρῖῖᾶν
ἀν εἰρρ ὕῖο οἰῖῖ ὅον ὀάν • ηαῖ ρῖῖῖ ὀρρ-ρᾶ να ρῖᾶῖῖᾶν
27. ἄῖτ̄ ἀν ὀεαρρῖᾶῖ ὀεαρρῖᾶρ ὀῖν • ἡῖρᾶβ̄ λῖ Τορρνα ἀν ρανν ὕῖο
εᾶῖῖῖ ιᾶῖ-ρῖοῖν ὀ'ρᾶῖῖῖῖ ρῖᾶῖ • ι ἡερῖῖ ἔῖρῖῖᾶν ἄρ εἰν-ρῖᾶν
28. 'ρ ἃ ὀῖοῖῆεᾶῖτ̄ ὁ λᾶῖν ὅο λᾶῖν • ὁ λᾶῖῖῖ ² Τορρνα ὅο ἄρ λᾶῖβ̄
ιρ ἃ β̄ρᾶῖῖῖῖ ὅο ὀῖρῖεᾶῖ • ἄρ ρῖῖῖῖτ̄ ρῖᾶῖ ιρ ρῖῖν-ρῆῖῖῖῖῖᾶῖ.
29. ιρ ρολλυρ μαρ ριν ὅο ρῖῖρ • ρῖᾶῖῖᾶρῖῖ ἃ αῖοῖᾶῖᾶ ρέιν
Τορρνα εἶζεαρ ὅο ρᾶῖῖῖ • ιρ ιν ἐρεροεαῖν ἐπίορταῖορ.

¹ II. 54. ² Cf. "ἄρ ρῖᾶῖ ρῖ λᾶῖῖῖ ὅο λᾶῖβ̄," "ἡῖ ἡόρ ηαῖ ἔᾶν-λᾶῖῖῖ ὀ'ρῖορ . ρῖ ἡῖῖῖ ἔᾶνλᾶῖῖῖ ιρ ἀηῖῖῖῖ," ἄ. ὀ ὀᾶῖῖῖ, RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 146, v. 5 ; p. 242, v. 32.

14. you may think they were Christians before Christ's birth !
This suspicion of mine is natural, for you yourself caused me
15. to doubt as to whom you mean by " Christians," seeing, O Tadhg, that you think of calling a pagan
16. Torna the poet who confessed the faith of Christ and His Apostles—as is clear to all from the final verse of his poem,
17. of which you have written, as you imagine, a refutation—not to be counted among your brilliant exploits !
Who, except an unbeliever or one who abandons the true faith
18. could possibly swear that it is not part of the Christian faith to confess the resurrection of the Son of God and to profess contempt for the present life
19. and to confess the resurrection of the body in the meeting place of all-powerful Christ, as Torna ¹ confessed it, the noble old man, whom Patrick won
20. after the death of Niall and Dathi, just as he won Oisín who was older than Torna and who believed in the God of glory ?
21. Unless you deny (as no one yet) vainly and on your own authority, that Torna is guarantee for the last verse of the poem.
22. If you deny that, there would be many a man and woman jeering at you in every way for your thoughtlessness
23. in not having denied at the beginning that Torna, the great sage, wrote any verse of the poem, since you did not like its language !
24. Think ! With your great intellect would that not have been easier for you to prove to those who like to listen to your argument
25. than to hold that one part of the poem on everyone's lips is by Torna and that the rest is not by him ?
26. For, at the period at which we now live, there is accessible to you no proof of his having written the whole of the rest of the poem
27. except the proof which proves that he wrote that verse too—namely this fact that all the verses have been always found together in Eire,
28. that they have been handed down from Torna's days ² to ours, and that they are couched exactly in the style of the sages and old writers.
29. It is clear, then, by the evidence of his own admission, that Torna, the poet, was a Christian.

30. Éilíḡ ionnna an mbreic nḡaoireá · fuḡair orim dáil nárb
faoimḡa
im ain-ḡreioimeac do ḡorname · 'r ḡaoir éú féin ran aḡbar-ra.
31. ór tú do pinne an t-aḡbar · fáir ḡairḡir mé do ḡamḡaḡ
nó ir tú do éuil ḡ ráḡ ríot · beic luait-ḡreiceac leic-
ḡreiceac.
32. Ort-ra má ḡarla ḡearmaḡ · ó luḡarḡ fuairair ḡearbḡaḡ
iar mbáḡaḡ ḡuinn an ḡrinḡir · do ḡreic oirḡeirḡ ainḡirḡin
33. mar tuḡaḡ ceannar na ríḡḡ · ar béal¹ éibir ḡ'Éireamḡon.
Narab ionḡnaḡ lib a-nor · do loḡtuḡaḡ ar ḡ lor
34. ḡan urraim uaid do ḡorna · ar doi n-aoire ir ealaḡna
ar ḡaoimib doirḡa buḡ ḡéin · ar ion ḡo n-iarraḡde réir
35. ḡ n-uacḡarain reac ḡac fear · bíḡḡ ḡo mbeic níor ó náro-
rean ;
aḡur an uair do ionḡraḡ · nac ir in reailḡ baḡ ḡúḡḡar
36. nó ar ḡual do rinḡreap ó ḡearḡ · ḡéiro an róireap n-oirḡeacḡ.
Móir do ḡarḡairne ar ḡorna · 'r má ḡaoi-re i ḡerḡeomḡ
móirḡa
37. nar ḡreio mar a-ḡeirḡ féin · ir ḡearb ḡur ḡríorḡaḡde
ei-réin.
Tuḡ ḡot aipe ar an aḡbar · cia ḡiob ḡilḡḡḡar do ḡamḡaḡ ;
38. nó an cóir ḡerḡeomḡ do ḡairm ḡe · an ḡerḡeomḡ rin i ḡruile
ḡot aomáil féin ór ḡá réaḡ² · ḡerḡeomḡ ḡorna ir ḡ-irir-
léaḡ ;
39. óir ón rḡmoptúir ir ḡeimḡ · ná fuil ann claoḡlóḡ ḡerḡomḡ
acḡ don ḡerḡeomḡ riam ḡo cóir · mar ḡearḡar ḡmaḡra
naomḡ-ḡóil.
40. ná bíḡḡ fór ort na éirḡearḡ · ná ainḡir i ḡrḡic Éireann
ḡurḡ é ḡorna an tobar fir · arḡ-ollamḡ ḡaḡa éirḡir
41. ḡurḡ uime rin do toḡaḡ · ó leic ḡuinn ó leic mḡoaḡ
mar oirḡ múnḡe ḡóib rin · miall ḡeamḡra ir Corḡ Cairil.
42. ir cóir ḡaoib-re ḡo ḡríor ḡamḡ · ar an aḡbar rin an ḡan
a-ḡeirḡ ḡuraḡ lia ḡ'fir · ir ḡ'ealaḡain ná an t-éirḡar
43. cuairḡ ran laroim maoirḡḡear lac · ir réac⁴ "*qui se exallat.*"
Do b'fearr ḡaoib ḡéamḡ ḡá réir · do ḡéaḡḡa ro rḡin-
leabḡraib féin
44. rean-focal ḡnáḡac ar rean · 'r fearr teicḡam ná ḡairḡeamḡ
ioná beic ro éúir ḡáire · aḡ fine ḡuinn ir mḡáirḡe
45. aḡ ḡealla rearḡa ḡo ḡruarḡ · it don i n-aḡarḡ móir-fíuaidḡ
ir ḡá ráḡaḡ ḡo neamḡ-nár · do ḡorna ḡol ar reacḡán

¹ Cf. "bél," Contrib. ² "réaḡ," "likeness of a thing," O'R. Dict.; O'Don. Suppl. ³ i.e. T.'s faith and yours are as I proved (Supra 18), both Christian, therefore if his is not the true faith, neither is yours. ⁴ vid. Var. Lect.

30. Revoke now the condemnation--an inadmissible one--you passed on me for defending an unbeliever, and condemn rather yourself on that score!
31. For it is you who committed the deed for which you try to condemn me, or it is you who should be called "rash-judging and biassed."
32. In case you may have forgotten about it, Lughaidh gave you a proof for the judgment of noble Aimhirgin, given after the drowning of Donn the elder son,
33. when the headship of the hosts was given ¹ to Eireamhon rather than to Eibhear.
Do not now wonder that you are blamed
34. for not showing respect to Torna owing to his age and his knowledge; seeing that obedience would be expected from even aged men
35. to their superior above all, even though he were younger than they; especially in this case as it is no hereditary possession,
36. or one due to the elder by legal right, that the younger inherits. Great is your contempt for Torna! Even if you do belong to the true faith
37. in which you say he did not believe, it is quite certain that *he* was a Christian.
Therefore consider which of you is worthy of condemnation;
38. or, is it right to call faith the faith you have, since according to your own admission Torna's faith and your law of faith are two things ² like each other; ³
39. for, from Scripture it is certain that there is no change in the faith, but that there is only one true faith as St. Paul's words prove.
40. You may take it as certain that in his day in Eire Torna was the well of knowledge, high master of every poet,
41. and that therefore he was chosen from Conn's Half and from Mogh's as teacher of both Niall of Teamhair and Corc of Caiseal.
42. You should therefore, I am sure, as you think yourself richer in knowledge and science than the poet,
43. search the Latin you boast of, and examine the phrase *qui se exaltat*.
It would be better for you to act on a proverb which you will find in your own old books,
44. a common proverb of our ancestors, "Better flee than remain," that is, than to be a laughing stock to Conn's race and to the folk of the Maigh
45. undertaking to stand stoutly alone against the great host, and saying shamelessly that Torna blundered

46. ó naé raib déct duine ann . dárú féidir doí ar mearbail
mar baó tura mo truaige . rriopas na héigre uaire
47. nó Dia na heasna ó rilit . rrota an ecluir fínniú
’r d’á máda sur d’easla léill . tús air d’á fiaónaire
féin
48. san doí i dteann-tasra rir . mar ar sháct luét an fáitir ;
ir a uraét a tuisrin . ar a tasra don éor rin
49. le Corc Cairil ’r le na fíréin . i bfiadónaire an ríos ríú-
léill
ir le Mall i n-asaró Cuirc . san brioét báda na labairt
50. ir naé raib don dpuing ollam . dardab sháct beic as
molaó
a dtriat na bfiadónaire féin . ’r d’á sur ór cionn shé
éinél
51. ’r nár élaon re connaitbe riam . as déanam leatruim re
Mall
ar beic d’-ran ait an éoir . don éloinn ír rin ó ulltaib
52. mar fuair Tadó an raii fearaé . so hinntleatáé áitearaé.
an raibe fala an uair-re . ba dora nó ba nuaróe
53. ná faltanar éloinne ír . re rlioét Tuatail d’á d’uigéi.
laé leo toréuir Tuatáil féin . asur a áair ba-déin
54. fiaaró fionnólaó fuair blaó . ir Conn crosa céat-cataé
’r Roiteatáig mac Maoin i bpaó . rra ran bpoirunn a-
duairt
55. ’r Muireadóé Tíreáé iar rom . rean-áair léill naoi-
gallais.
Sinnir léill naé leo toréuir . i n-éir na n-éat n-oróaire
56. Oíill mac Stánuill nár élaic . ir airgeadmar mac Síorláin
Éilim mac Connra maile . asur Máil mac Roépuróe.
57. ir naé le com-bháitir léill . clanna Eocáda Domléin
do rshuoraó ó shuic bunaró . i n-eair éisró Concóbar.
58. ’S naé le heocáar áair léill . do ví-éannar féada féin
an rí déreanaé d’ib rom . ríomtar ar éirinn éatáig.
59. Caolbaó mac Cpuinn Baórai a ainm . líor éuir cairuir
do comfnaóim
rlioét ír asur Éibir glain . shó mói víob taréuir mar
rom
60. a rean-fala do éuaró ar . ir líor nuaróreaó faltanar.
an ríle d’fuit Éibir fínn . corruil d’á bfeadaó so shinn

¹ K II. 258. ² 4 M. 56. ³ 4 M. 157. ⁴ K II. 131. ⁵ 4 M. 356.
⁶ K II. 136. ⁷ K II. 146. ⁸ K II. 240. ⁹ K II. 258. ¹⁰ 3 Collas, K III. 360.
¹¹ K II. 364.

46. being only a fallible man, (as though you were alas! the very spirit of noble poetry
47. or the God of wisdom from whom spring the streams of true knowledge!) and saying that fear of Niall—according to his own confession—caused him,
48. as is the case with timid folk, to avoid disputing with Niall; though it is evident from his argument then
49. with Corc of Caiseal and his tribesmen in presence of King Niall, and with Niall in Corc's presence that there was no trace of his being led astray by his partiality,
50. and that he was not one of those poets whose custom it is always to praise their chiefs in their presence and to extol them over every other race,
51. and that he was never led away in his patriotism to argue unfairly for Niall, though he was (a strange crime!) of the race of Ir of the Ulaidh,
52. as Tadhg—the wise sage—has discovered so cleverly and so successfully!

Was there any feud at that time older or fresher

53. than that between Ir's race and Tuathal's, of all the feuds you know of?

Was it not by the hands of Ir's race that Tuathal¹ himself fell and his father, famous

54. Fiachaidh Fionnoladh,² and valorous Conn of the hundred fights,³ and long before these Roitheachta, son of Maon,⁴
55. and afterwards Muireadhach Tireach,⁵ grandson of Niall of the nine hostages?

Was it not by Niall's ancestors that fell in requital for their crimes

56. Oillill mac Slanoll,⁶ no gentle hero, and Airgeadmhar⁷ son of Siorlamh, Elim mac Conra⁸ too, and Mal mac Rochruidhe?⁹
57. And was it not by Niall's kinsfolk that Eochaidh Doimhleín's¹⁰ race were driven from their country to the extremity of Conchobhar's province?
58. And was it not by Eochaidh, Niall's father, that was beheaded—look it up yourself—the last king of them (Ir's race) mentioned as ruling fierce Eire?
59. Caolbhaidh son of Cronn Badhraoi¹¹ was his name. His death was no cause of binding friendship! Though many of the races of Ir and famous Eibhear fell thus,
60. their old hatred flickered out, and they did not keep up their mutual hate.

A poet of Eibhear's race would, naturally, if he bore carefully in mind

61. an falcannar ro ulltað • þe miall v'ér na n-iomarrðal
 oo cupr comþiáðr ðorpa ar scúl • so n-iarrpfað claoðlót
 þéarþun
62. v'íul éigin ar a mbiað v'at • i þfíatðnaire þear Munan
 ír nað maoðrþeað tré fíol n-íþ • báðr ðorpa þur an áirv-þíð.
63. Maít v'am mo þarannail inn. • Tú ar nat meallat þaoilvð
 rinn
 'r þurð þearpáge Corc an áiz • ar þon þur þeacain teazbáil
64. ar mbeít vð-ran an éiro-þeacét • na v'alta az Torpa éizear
 'r ar a beít na þíz Munan • oo hoirvneat mar ba cubatð
65. i nþiáðvab² fíleat so þíor • oo þéir þnátaz ar þein-þíoz
 þan þearann ar þeancar élaon • þur nað rþarþat þeirean þaoþ.
66. Mí ó aineolur þuari Corc • zé þuari avðar v'á v'úræc.
 Oo þaoilþinn þór amlatð rin • þurav þearp-rá i sceirv
 þairþíð
67. ioná Corc tré teíceann vð • so n-a ceítþe caða arnita
 ó miall i mþearnnán éile • v'ar coirþeav a zcomþéirþe
68. 'r þan é ní ba zoire vð • ioná longþorþ i loþra
 'r tupa v'ar leat þan vaoðal • az cupr þomav it donar
69. tavairt þroavmóþ an neart • oo leít Cumn uile i n-éirþeacét.
 Acét muna mbeít so zcuata • vat þéin it þuizlív þuara
70. méav þar n-aivþir ír náþ þoin • i þaizlaðvab an avoþarð
 az tavairt oile þairþe • ar Conn oo v'ole an aítþe
71. tré þan þavav oo cupr vð • þomþe rin so Moð þuavð
 an tan tuz amur longþuirþ • ar avoþan so n-állmþurðvab.
72. Á éliar éireann teap ír avatð • þreazþarv⁴ ro avoþarð
 þar n-uall.
- Rug ó þorþ þarþeap þravð • ollam ór þac ollamain
73. av-veir þurav mó avá v'þíor • ír v'ealavðain aize av-moð
 ná az Torpa an av-þoþar þeav • avv-ollam innþe þaoirvav,
74. av-veir so v'vovþra þoillþe • v'vov þuirvnn avá i v'vovþe
 'r eolur nað þrít þomþe ro • þe þarþ ar mite v'vavðan.
75. Tizvð a rþola v'vavð • ar þac avovþ ír in av-rá
 v'þeacain a míoþvav n-eolur • Oia na héizþe v'vavð-veovðav.
76. Tavþeavnavð vð þar v'vavþra • az léizvann leavþrann þeavvð
 lþvð þonn v'vav þar ráravð • a rþuét éizþe an íol-v'vavþiz

¹ XIV. 15. ² Pl. of "þiáð," "grade," usually "þiáðvab," but cf. "þeacét
 nþiáðvð na þvðlðvð ar þao • ríðin oo avatð tavéuinnaz"; "mar avoþar þvðþe þeacét
 nþiáðvð," S. Mc an avro, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 148, v. 5, 8. They are also
 called "þarþra," cf. "þan þeacét nþarþra oo þavbáil," F. ón Cainte, RIA. 23
 E. 15, p. 181, v. 8, where they are enumerated. ³ III. 29, v. 163, 164.
⁴ Þreazþarv, "I go to" (?), cf. "þreazþarv ír móþ v'vovþarvð vð • þan avzlarv
 ionnþuavþ avroþ"; "þreazþarv an teaz avll um nóin"; "þan na hanman
 avzla an v'vav • a þvþreazþarv ír avðar v'vavþarv," A. ó v'vavþiz, RIA. 23 G. 27,
 p. 233, v. 25; G. 23, p. 274, v. 3; p. 296, v. 3.

61. the hate of the Ultaigh for Niall after their mutual slaughter,
in order to refute Torna's words, have tried to upset the
reasonable account
62. by some piece of learning that might look plausible to
the men of Mumha, and he would not state that Torna
because of his being of Ir's race was partial to the High-king !
63. Pardon me my opinion in the matter. I think you have made
a mistake, and that Corc the slayer was wiser than you,¹
seeing that he avoided contradicting Torna
64. (for he had at first been Torna's pupil, and when he was king
of Mumha, he was ennobled as was fitting
65. in the grades ² of poetry exactly according to the customs
of the ancient kings), and did not rely on perverted versions
of history from which he could not have backed out with
impunity.
66. Corc did not foolishly invent such things, though he had reasons
urging him to do so. I should moreover even imagine that
you are braver in arms
67. than Corc seeing that he fled with his four armed hosts away
to Bearnan Eile from Niall, by whom his (Corc's) hosting
was forbidden,
68. though Niall was not nearer to him than the camp at Lothra,
and seeing on the other hand that you (without risk to your-
self as you think) purpose alone
69. giving battle (such is your strength !) to all Conn's Half
together ! ³
Had I not heard you display in your stupid words
70. your excessive (shameful !) ignorance of the rules of war,
putting reproach on Conn's valour
71. for not giving warning beforehand to Mogh Nuadhat when
he attacked the latter's camp and his foreigners, I should
not have believed it.
72. Ye poets of Eire, North and South, come, ⁴ raise your cries of
joy ! There has come from the gates of Paradise to you a
sage beyond all sages
73. who says he has more knowledge and science to-day than
Torna, the ancient sage, high poet of the Isle of the Gaoidhil !
74. who says that to those who sit in darkness he will give light
and knowledge unknown for over a thousand years !
75. Come ye schools of Banba from every side to-day to see the
marvels of lore of the God who brings wisdom to life again !
76. Show him the difficulties you have in reading the ancient books.
Drink here satisfying draughts from the stream of wisdom
of the many-gifted man,

77. *ir ná congubad ríob a mear · supb é Mac Dáire ón tSaoib tear
nac cuatabair ronnhe ro · do d'ul tar cáe i n-easna.*
78. *Óir ir ead aicirtear uair · ir in b'forḡar lámh le Cluain
so b'fuar reirean so nua 'noir · cur do énuar na ḡrann
n-iomuir*
79. *uar éirḡ bunne an bairḡ fir · a fuarán easna sup ríe
ó toirdear éirḡe ar tuile · aḡ rḡoltao a urbunne.*
80. *Daoine eile dá ráo fir · so b'fuar reirean an t-eo fir ⁴
ó doibill ban-fáir ríe m'loir · aḡ aige na carair.*
81. *Muna ḡreirtoir-pe a n-éabairt · tigró ar ḡac air o'féacain
ionḡantair m'oirpeacair roin · reir-ḡiaḡ Callain re n-ióḡnaib.*
82. *ḡr ead a éirḡe uairle · o'eaḡla oirbire uair-pe
'e tuarḡḡaíl ar mearo blaorḡ · ná f'eaḡar do ḡairm
o'iomáoin.*
83. *Anaí aḡ b'ar n-oirtoir féin. · óir fuair m'ir rḡéala ó 'né
supab é an Tadoḡ daoib aicirtoir · aḡ ann ná haḡraḡr,*
84. *'r nac fuil aet all-ḡlór ḡan f'réin · na aetmoltair air féin
'r nac ená iomuir mar aḡ élor · fuair reirean ir in b'forḡar*
85. *aet ená caoča dá nḡoirtear · enuar na ḡrann nem-fir
n'oi-éairt
tré nac faḡar uacá iar rḡéit · torao aet ainbior uile ;*
86. *ir pór nac é an t-eo fir · mar faoilear rluasḡ Sléibe M'ir
fuair ó doibill clomne Cair · aet mao eo fir ain-eoluir ;*
87. *ar an aḡb'ar nac faicim · aet fir aige aḡur airinn
i n-aic an m'oir-eoluir éirḡ · do faoil o'Éirinn do éabairt.*
88. *Dá b'iaf'raḡr cia an toirdear · ó ḡiaḡ Callain do
comp'eaḡ
aicim ar b'ar n-éirḡe ríob · ḡaḡaíl oib ar b'ar nḡairm*
89. *an uair do mear ḡac Muimneac · do énnairc mear a buirḡ-
rean
ḡein an-m'oir uairde do b'airt · aet luc féir uair n'oir tuir-
mear.*
90. *O'Éir ar rḡaoileao ar ḡac leat · ó air-o'ile an taoibe tear
aḡ rḡḡa a toirdeir fir do · amail do éalair rḡola*
91. *ar n'ol do ar a éiaḡaib fir · ní tḡs do rluasḡ Sléibe M'ir
o'íul aet a ráo nac raibe · Torra i ḡeiream ériortairde*
92. *'r mar rin sup ionḡao d'ain-ra · ool ar ron a m'acraimla
'r oom éor-ra i ḡomair re d'ain · ar o'iomáoin toirḡ ran
eaoḡao*

¹ Cluain Ramhfhada, a castle of the O'Briens on the bank of the Fergus, Co. Clare. Cf. Tribes of Ireland, O'Don., p. 79. ² Cf. M. C. II. 143. ³ v. Var. Lect. ⁴ M. C. II. 143. Δ. Ó Dálaigh applies "eo fir" to the Blessed Virgin ! "an t-eo fir óir d'uinḡ oia," RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 278, v. 4. ⁵ Co. Clare.

77. and let not the thought restrain you that he is only Tadhg Mac Daire of the South (of whom you have not yet heard as surpassing all in wisdom!).
78. It is related by him that in the Fergus near Cluain,¹ he has found again some of the fruit of the trees of knowledge,²
79. whence there arose the spring of the knowledge-bubble, so that the cold spring of knowledge rushed forth³ in flood, swollen with wisdom bursting its banks!
80. Others say of him that he got the knowledge-salmon⁴ from Aoibheall who is his friend, the prophetess of Blod's race.
81. If you do not believe him, come from all parts to see a greater marvel still, old Sliabh Callain⁵ in travail!
82. Yet! noble poets, lest I be abused by you for announcing a rumour no weightier than a shell, I warn you not to answer a useless summons.
83. Remain with your own masters. I have been told since yesterday that it is the Tadhg whom you know of who is meant—do not stir!—
84. and that his self-praise is only empty boasting, and that not nuts of knowledge did he get, as was said, in the Fergus
85. but blind nuts, called the fruit of the tree of ignorance and wrong (because when they are shed the only fruit got from them is perfect ignorance);
86. and also that it is not the knowledge-salmon, as the folk of Sliabh Mis think, which he got from Aoibheall of Clann Cais but the knowledge-salmon of ignorance;
87. because I do not see that he has aught but visions and dreams instead of the correct abundant knowledge which he pretended to bestow on Eire.
88. If you ask what was the progeny conceived by Sliabh Callain I implore of you by your poetic profession to restrain your laughter,
89. for when every man of Mumha who saw the great swelling imagined that an enormous progeny was being brought forth there was born—only a field-mouse!
90. After all that had been announced everywhere by the Southern High-poet as to the wondrous knowledge he had conceived—as all Fodla heard,
91. when he got on his vision-wattles, he gave the folk of Sliabh Mis no other knowledge than this—that Torna was not a Christian,
92. and that therefore it was strange for me to come forward to defend a man like him, and he compared me to the ox who has nothing to do at milking-time,

93. and (among much other stupid talk) he kept deafening our ears repeating often—poor fellow ¹—the “benefits of his benefits,”
94. and the other silly things which he brings forward for Eibhear and his race, things which Lughaidh had already refuted, but which he now brought forward as the truth,
95. so as to persuade Dal gCais, with whom he is in high esteem, that he is giving a perfect answer because (as he says) everyone believes him !
96. There you have, ye poets of Fodla, this wonderful lore for the defence of the South which Mac Daire invented in his “comparison,”
97. a lore which not Guile of Ath Loich,² Mac Liag nor any other proper sage of Leath Mogha ever hit on for nearly 1300 years past.
98. There you have the knowledge-well which broke forth in excessive wisdom and which enabled Clann Cais’ chief prophet to crush Leath Cuinn with mighty learning
99. —though the Christianity of Torna the poet is not evident to him as it is evident in any fifty stanzas of the poems in the East or the West handed down in the schools !
100. Though there may be none of us (O.S.F.) belonging to the noble race of poets, yet it is unlikely that my habit will ever be
101. without some wearer of it in the North to defeat you. Many are those (of the North) by whom victory has been won by the sword ³ ere this, since ⁴ the first proud Mac Daire ⁵ (?)
102. and it has now inflicted the fool’s tonsure on the second Mac Daire ! It is strange that you think yourself entitled to argue for Corc
103. who had not faith in Christ and who did not keep the commandments of the High King, and on the other hand I am not entitled (a sad business !) to put forward a few words for Lughaidh,
104. who—we know you will not deny this much—enjoys the light of faith ! If that be a partial or rash judgment which is given when the judge has heard both sides
105. so that he must wait for the opinions of the people in some part of the world whom their neighbours might imagine to have something to say, or whom their neighbours might declare
106. to have some statement to make which would settle the case in dispute, then it is unlikely that anyone would ever settle any case !

107. 'S ír leit-ðreit luat fúgair féin · ar tásra Torna ír ríog
Néill
ír vo ðamnar a fúg fram · an eaglaír toir aður tíar
108. vo ðreiteamnar ó ðligæð · í n-aðar na n-eitþiceað
a-veir so mbíð leo vo gñát · neite nuarðe þe a ráð
109. þe huét þríp-ðíall mbreitre Ðé · ar a noðmantar iaro-
féin ;
aður arír vo ðamnar · forðla a mbeapap ar talinain
110. vo þreathíð ðiorða ðligæ · ír in maitear þuiblðe.
Ðé so nðaðar-þe vo láim · so treorðar toir éloinn Tál
111. mar þac íl-ðeip¹ vð þruil lat · beir voð múnæð-þa í
noaðaðæt
ír ríð að þairm voctúir vðom · oic an vðaðæt vuit so
fíor
112. a fðsra oram þa þreath · vo þreit ar an þraoirþoneað
gá cup iar vtuigrin a gñíom · an tan rin ó ðligæð fíor
113. þia n-éirðeaðæt amail ar gñát · a þraoirþone so nomlân
an trát ar þollur nað tíg · leir an gcomngiol ðligæar
rin
114. le hatþeaðar ó cupðe · ná le haðmáil fírinne.
Ðearð ar ar maite þrot féin · þar n-airv-ríð ar tæmþaig
tþéin
115. iar gþeirðeam þar háirþneað líð · tpe lúgæð an éomáirþm
ní hé amáin na þroðair þoin · ríogþað leite Cuinn so
ngol
116. aðt í þríðnaire vo þeaðt · gceatþar þiaf an naom-þroiceapt.
ír corþruil þur veaðair vuit · teaðt so vðna ríor þan
tþoio
117. lét ðon þrian þóruþne a-váin · vo fíol éivir so móp-váil
í n-aðar þeaðt 'r vð þiceað · aðá vo þéir na þrileað
118. na n-airv-ríogðað ór vðinn þreag · v'þuill éireamþóin iar
gþeirðeam.
ír vð vtuigmaoir na ríð vuit · tar fírinne an tpeandair
glom
119. Toirðealþað ía þrian þar mbrað · nað vðað þrian ina
aðnar
vðíg gð að vðna ar éloinn Tál · líð-þe féin fór gomað
náir
120. þan aðt vð ríð í gcomair leat · le móir-þeirear 'r vð
þiceað.
Aðá an oiræp rin aðað · vo gñáit-þéar ionn þar vðagþað

¹ íl-ðeip^{ro} a grammatical blunder (?). Cf. XII. 5. note.

107. And (according to that theory of yours) you yourself have given a rash judgment in the dispute of Niall and Torna, and you have condemned all the judgments which the Church, East or West
108. has passed legitimately on heretics, who usually say they have some new arguments to advance
109. against the true senses of God's word owing to which they are being condemned ; and also you have condemned
110. most of the righteous judgments of earthly law passed for the common good.
- Though you have bravely undertaken among Tal's race—
111. together with the other poor professions¹ you have—to teach me Theology (styling me " Doctor ") bad indeed is your own Theology !
112. since you condemn me for passing judgment on the penitent when I had understood his state of conscience, passing it in that (*i.e.* your) case quite justifiably
113. without hearing—as would be the usual case—his whole confession, since it is evident that he has not come with the requisite conditions
114. namely with heart-felt contrition and truthful confession. Certain it is that it was in your own interest that you did not count your High-Kings reigning in strong Teamhair
115. after the coming of the Faith, because they were so few in number, not merely in comparison with the valorous kings of Leath Cuinn
116. but in comparison with your twenty-eight who ruled before the holy doctrine came !
- Likely enough it is difficult for you to come down bravely into the fight
117. with your single Brian to do credit to Eibhear's race, against the forty-seven kings of Eireamhon's race, who according to the sages
118. were High-Kings over Boinn Breagh after the coming of the Faith.
- And even if we conceded to you as one of your kings—against the truth of good history—
119. Toirdhealbach O Briain—your great hope—(so that Brian should not be your only king !) I think that, proud as you are of Clann Tail, you would be ashamed
120. that there should be only two kings on your side against forty-seven !

You have such an inveterate habit in your arguments

- I21. ar bap neitib féin a-máin . 'do cup a-mac le móp-óáil
somad corháil dámaó lib . an dá fíceaó 'r na reacé ríḡ
- I22. 'o'fúil léilí ó ceart a rean . 'do ḡab éirinn iar ḡerpeoam
ḡo ḡuirpe rib bap b'fúil féin . ór éionn ríḡ mac n'irp'él
- I23. 'r ór impirib ḡá 'o'áim rib . an oirp'ir ip an fúinnó ;
mar ar urur a aítne . óo máoiríḡe ar a máicne
- I24. 'r ar bap mbláómann ar ḡac leic . ar bap n-aon úrian
bóruime
ip an ḡoróin f'riót mar f'riót . leir nac béapaó tpe bit
ríor
- I25. 'oá mb'é éan-lám 'oon éluice . ó éionn tuacail 'r luḡome
ór fuaóad 'oo 'óruim fáille . an coróin 'r a bóruime
- I26. 'oo réir mar 'oeapbócam 'uib . aḡ cup ḡluair ar téx
luḡaró
ór é rin téxa 'óipeac . na rruitead 'r na rein-rḡrúbnead.
- I27. 'S ionḡnaó liom ó fíor t'aoipe . ar an ḡcúir noctam
'oaoib-pe
coimmar éaḡ-corháil a-noir . 'oo éionnrḡnam mar 'oo
éionnrḡnair.
- I28. 1r 'oailḡe liom ioná rin . an ní éuala 'oá ráó lib.
'oo ḡluair bap b'pearḡ ḡo meap'oa . i n-aḡaró léilí ríḡ-
téamra
- I29. ar ron h-an-élaite 'oo ḡairm . 'oo ríol n'éibir ó b'f'riót
. r'p'airm
'oar leat nac éualair a-piam . ḡo rin a 'noubarp rí-ílaill
- I30. mar 'oo b'áóair ḡo 'oiamrac . aḡ r'aoéruḡad fead bliadó na
clann éireamóin na n-arm nḡear . an t'páé fuaḡair i
n-érot'péan
- I31. cpaó 'oo 'oealbad 'oo 'óál ḡcair . nar éuirp ua t'áil réc
air¹
na aon oḡpe ceart na ceann . ar fúil ríḡḡacéa éireann
- I32. 'oo réir an éirp ḡo 'óipeac . 'oo bí ḡan éionn rin ílilead
pe 'o'eaéc ḡabáitair oile . ar Críé n-ápparó nluḡome,
- I33. aḡur f'ór ran ḡcpaóib ḡcéaona . 'oa ḡac t'aoib 'oá
éairbéana
ḡur éailp'eaó an éuro oile . 'o'uarib Críce laḡairpe
- I34. an t'páé-r'aaéc amáin ua Cair . a ḡceart ar éirinn iac-
ḡair.
Már f'irunneac r'úo a t'aróḡ . mar 'oeapb'éar 'óúinn ar ḡac
airó
- I35. por³ 'oall 'oo b'aró pe 'óál ḡcair . 'r an onóir uaéa
fuaḡair
ar an moó roin ḡo b'fuile . nac ḡuimíḡe ip nac tuḡe

121. of boastfully exaggerating your side, that, probably if you possessed the ninety-seven kings
122. of Niall's blood who by right of their ancestors ruled Eire after the coming of the Faith you would exalt your race over the kings of Israel's race,
123. and over the emperors indeed of the East and West! As is easy to guess from your boastfulness as to Brian's single race
124. and from your bragging in every way about him, and about the crown he got (the way he did get it! and he never would have got it
125. if he had been the only player in the game!) from Tuathal's race and Iughoine's—through whose apathy the crown and the cow-tax were robbed from them
126. as we shall prove to you, adding a note to Lughaidh's "text," for such is the authentic version given by sages and ancient writers.
127. I wonder for the reasons I give you that one of your age should attempt to make, as you have, such an unequal comparison.
128. More painful still to me is the other thing I learn from you. Your anger blazed against Niall, king of Teamhair
129. for calling Eibhear's race "usurpers" (hence the dispute—you never, you say, heard the expression before!)
130. as you had been, at a time when you found Eireamhon's sharp-armed race weak, working secretly for a whole year
131. on a pedigree of Dal gCais in which you put Tal's descendant—arbitrarily ¹—as the one only rightful heir of Eire's royal race
132. exactly according to the law obtaining among Mile's sons up to the coming of another invasion ² into the old Land of Iughoine!
133. trying to prove in every way in that pedigree of yours that all the other princes of Laoghaire's Land
134. at that time except Cas' descendant lost their rights to green-grassed Eire!
- If the other version be true—as is proved to us from every source—
135. your love for Dal gCais, and the honour you got from them, has blinded ³ you so that you are so disposed as not to remember and not to understand

¹ Διρ, "will" (?), cf. "τρέ clainn εοξαιν 'r ní σά n-Διρ . ρεολαό ταρ θαννα ταρ θυαιρ," O. Ó Maoiléonaire, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 250, v. 4; "σο ρναίμαρ ιαο ταρ Δ n-Διρ (spite of them?) ρμοδα ιονναλτα Δn ιουμυρ," F. Ón Cárnte, RIA. 23 E. 15, p. 181, v. 20; also infra XXIII. 8, 9. ² The English, cf. XI. 1. ³ μορ σαλλ (all MSS.) is strange, 2 Sg. Infix. Pron is never -s- (Eriu, i. 155).

136. Fírinne an tpeanáir uairil · léigse gac laoi ic fear
tuanaib.
Gíó mó 'do ghnótuig Mac Uas · 'r áitear ua loircáin² ar
brian
137. ná rib-re ar éinead Cair · gá bfuile ro réadluinn eoluir
dá mbeirtoir a leicéro rúo · 'do leic-breic amail ru5 tó
138. le Brian i n-aghao céille · 'r fírinne na rein-éigse
'do rsguorfarde gan éroearb · le hollamhaib na héireann
139. a n-anmanna go hollam · ar polla na n-ollamhan.
Ó 'o-éitear duit sur éigsear · ar beic na rinnreap
o'éibear
140. cup éireamóin 'r a fil rin · re n'éibear re ríol n'éibir
nac éig-sear duit-re Dál gCair · rluóct an tróirir
Cormaic Cair
141. 'do cup ór éionn na gclann raor · clainne Carcáig 'r a
gcom-ghol
maicne Carcáig go n-a nghol · rluóct an trinnirir iad ardon
142. Eogain mhoir ro ba mac glan · o'Oilill Ólum rí5 Mumhan.
Táinig crobuing caogao rí5 · ar rluóct Eogain mhoir go
ríor
143. ór an Mumhan go meadair · go Cormac mac Muireadair
asur gan ac dā rí5 dēas · 'do rluóct Cormaic Cair na
tchéad
144. na rí5aib ór Mumhan mór. · Pollur bar leactrom aighir.
For5la a bfuil i leic Mo5ad · mealla ar reilb beic dā
gcorraib
145. ra Dál gCair mar clanna Cuinn · dā gcur le reandair
mearbail.
Ir léir mar rin ran am-ra · cia 'do ní an tpeadad tarrna.
146. a-déara rluas Cairil Cuirc · sur uiom-buad dōib 'do
labairt.
Bíod a dēmhin asac réin · don uimhir áirne ar 'do fíréin
147. ór éionn éireann mar rí5a · go bfuil curo nac in-ríomha.
An fear o'earbad ar tríocharo. · rna gperoeam uab dā
ríomchar
148. ná háirné opra ó ro amac · an dā ceatpar d'éroeanac,
ná Brian bōrúne iar gperoeam · dā mbeic nac beandad
reirean
149. an rí5adct amail 'do buing · go ceat5ac 'do Maol-feaclunn.
Ó mho5 Corp go ré Cpuomhamn · dōib ar reilb beic na
rí5aib
150. an dā ceatpar a-deir rinn · nac cóir o'áiream ar éirinn.
A haitle lughme mhoir · tá an t-octar rin ó cóir

136. the truth of the noble history which you read daily in your old poems.
 Though Mac Liag¹ and Aitheas O Lorcain² did greater service to Brian
137. than you to Cas' race, (whose guiding star you are!), if they had given such a judgment as you
138. in favour of Brian and against good sense and authentic old poetry, their names would certainly be quickly blotted out
139. by Eire's sages from the roll of the sages!
 Since you think it unjust owing to Eibhear's being the elder
140. to put before him and his race Eireamhon and his, is it not unjust for you to put Dal gCais descended from Cormac Cas a younger brother,
141. over the free tribes Clann Carthaigh and their kin, race of Carthach's race and their kin being all sprung from the elder son
142. Eoghan Mor, fair son of Oilill Olum King of Mumha.
 There came a band of fifty kings, in truth, of Eoghan's race
143. ruling happily over Mumha down to Cormac Mac Muireadhaigh,³ and only twelve kings of many-flocked Cormac Cas' race
144. ruling Mumha Mis. Clear now is your biassed argument.
 A tricking of most of the folk of Leath Mogha out of their rightful possession
145. is your defence of them by putting them (as you put Clann Cuinn also) by means of your false genealogy beneath Dal gCais.
 It is clear now who is guilty of "crooked ploughing"!
146. The folk of Caiseal of Corc will say your words were a disservice to them!
 Be assured that of the number you count of your race
147. ruling Eire there are some who should not be counted. As for the twenty-eight you mention before the coming of the Faith
148. do not for the future count the eight last; nor would Brian either after the coming of the Faith be counted, except that he seized
149. the kingdom, as he did, by treachery from Maoilsheachluinn!
 We assert that those from Mogh Corb to Criomhthann who held power as kings,
150. those eight, should not be counted over Eire. Coming after Iughoine Mor these eight are in law

¹ Brian's poet. ² No reference to this poet. Perhaps "Ṛ Δ ΔΙΤΕ Ο ΛΟΤΤΑΙΝ," but CUAN Ó LOTCÁIN does not seem to have been a supporter of Brian. ³ K III 310.

151. iona n-anflataib uile · mar don ne brian bōrumne.
 Mí cōir a n-ainm do cūr rior · go brát i polla na ríog.
152. Ar numuir ríog lnnre bpeas · ní cōir an naonbair o'áiream.
 Éireamhón céro-pí banba · don éloinn Míleas dā dārla
153. gē do beanrao trī haicme · real ríge dā ríog-maicne
 fuair realardead na ríge · clanna luigthead mic lte
154. rluoēt ír asur éibir fínn · na trī haicmeas dā deirum.
 Sealas dōib ar an nór ro · as rparinn mū im ríogadēt
 bpfola
155. an élann rin Éireamhón féil · an trát fa hérotrean iaro-
 réin.
 Mar rin dī i noiar dā céile · ó pé Comhaoil mic éibir
156. nar dāingniš don dponš na féilb · go tuirim Reactarō
 Ríš-deirš.
 lušoine tārparō an trealb. · leir torcūir Reactarō Ríš-
 dears
157. i noiošail éasa a bume · Maca miolla mongbuiro.
 Ir é an tlušoine Mōr fa · do dāingniš ríogadēt fōla
158. dō féin ír dā ríol ó roin · do péir an reacta an uair-roin
 é do dāingniš a dīrleadēt · o'fuil Éireamhón mic Míleas
159. do péir na n-ušoar dromōa · domar uile an teann-
 pone-ra.
 Šan cūr ina éeann péine · ná a élann-maicne dā éire
160. tuingro aicme éibir fínn · 'r šac dponš oile fa éirinn.
 Do tuingread o'aitearš éin-fir · bíod go mbeoír níor
 tréine
161. Šan éeart ar biē ó ro a-mac · o'asra dōib ar tpeib
 Teamrac.
 Tugrao dō an uile umladēt · dar nairš oppa ran éonnarō.
162. Šac plān šac móro dār šnāt ponn · tugrao uata pé éomall.
 Oisne an lušoine dubart · Tuatal Teactmar nar tubad
163. ampir fada dā éir roin · an éuings éeona por éeangail.
 Šonad dē rin ar an-flait · šac ní o'fuil éibir arn-šlain
164. dar éairš reilš na ríge ó roin · ar éloinn lušoine ír
 Tuatal.
 Ar ríogadē aca ón am roin · dponš do éiruš le a n-antoil
165. i n-ašarō na fola ríog · le huabair ír le hainbfior
 šā dū i noiarō na mionn ra · do šluairfead ulca iomōa
166. šibē do éairšread Šan éear · a raorad ó ain-flaitear.
 Oršlarō ar fead an domain · rlište earumla ír cogarō

151. all mere usurpers as well as Brian Boroimhe. Their names should never be put in the Roll of Kings.
152. Among the kings of Inis Breagh these nine should not be counted.
Eireamhon was first king over Banba of all Mile's stock,
153. though three other branches wrenched a period of rule from his princely house, the race of Lughaidh mac Ithe,
154. that of Ir and that of Eibhear Fionn, just these three.
They were thus for some time fighting for power in Fodhla
155. with the race of noble Eireamhon when these were weak.
Thus was it with them all through, from the day of Conmhaol, Eibhear's son,
156. so that no family of them grew strong in possession till the death of Reachtaidh Righdhearg.¹ Iughoine then got possession. By him was slain Reachtaidh Righdhearg
157. to avenge his foster-mother's death, gentle Macha of the yellow hair. It is this Iughoine Mor who secured the rule of Fodhla
158. for himself and his seed after him according to the law of the time. It is he who secured Eire's fidelity to the stock of Eireamhon son of Mile,
159. according to the weighty authors who all admit this important point. That neither they nor their race after them would ever oppose him
160. is what Eibhear Fionn's race and every other in Eire swore.
They swore, at the dictation of a single man, that though they might be stronger
161. they never would assert a right to Teamhair's Dwelling. In the pact he bound on them they promised him complete obedience.
162. They gave him for fulfilment of their promise, every surety every oath then usual here.
This Iughoine's descendant, namely unconquered Tuathal Teachtmhar
163. a long time after imposed the same bond on them. So that therefore every king of bright-sworded Eibhear's race
164. who strove for the kingship after that against Iughoine's race is a "usurper." As for those who were made kings afterwards, those who perversely arose,
165. especially after such oaths, in pride and injustice against the royal stock, great evils would ensue
166. if anyone openly attempted to absolve them from the crime of usurpation. A person so arguing opens up everywhere in the world the road to rebellion and war

167. 1 n-aḡarò na bḡpmonnḡarò ḡceapṡ · do vîo-rḡaoilearò a móir-
neapṡ.
Do cūillearò vîomòra ó nîoḡarib · an talḡan-ra vîbillionarib
168. vārab vānḡean do ḡonḡarò · ar cōmēarò a rean-cōnnḡarò
'r ar cōnḡbāil nîḡe ḡo rām · ar a ḡceapṡ 'r ar a ḡcōrāin
169. móro uapāilearòta ir umla · do buain do luēt earumla.
Dāmā cearvūḡṡṡeac vōn tīr · ḡan cōmall a mionn vā nîḡ
170. cia do nîoḡarib ra vōmān ¹ · vār cōir flaitēar v'altuḡarò.
Vā moltar vōib a-nīre · vōl do cḡoro im an nîḡe
171. na huairle cūipro ra rmaēt · ir mionnūḡear vāib umlaēt
carō ar talḡain nī ra nīm · lēn hēroir a vearvā vō rīn
172. rearò don uairē ḡā vōtām vō · 1 nîḡe ḡan fḡearvāra.
vîor nar cḡerovēar na nîḡ · luḡoine ir Tuacal na vōir
173. ceanḡlaro vōib fēin 'r vā rīvōēt rīn · ra móro umla rīr
fūinrō
muna bḡuair tū ro rḡḡorptūir fēin · nac fūil v'fīacāib ar
an méro
174. vîor ḡan cḡerovēam vō vūilḡ · caomna an vūḡrō nāvūirḡ,
acēt ḡurab éroir leo ó cēapṡ · ḡan cōmall mionn mar ar
vleacēt
175. fūil arāile do vōrṡarò · 'r mnā a cēile do cōmṡocṡarò ²
nī ro nac rāḡar aḡ fārò · aḡur nac éroir a rārò
176. ḡan cūillearò vîomòra n-aḡvā · ó Rīḡ līme ir naom-
talḡan.
fēac fēin a leac Moḡa móir · an vḡaice ar cāoḡ vearvā
ḡeoin
177. tar éir ro-vōcāir clann ḡcāir · ar a fūarānarib eolair ;
llo an vḡfūil vearvāta ó cluair ḡo cluair · ó don vḡācāir vōn
cāoib cūarò
178. ḡan cēar vā cḡarōib 'r vā eāḡna · do rēir iūil na rēin-
rḡneapṡra,
muna āitḡe ḡurab vḡeāḡ · rḡrīvṡtar ar leir cūinn na
ḡcēar
179. ḡur vūilṡar vāorōil vā ḡceapṡ · 'r ḡur mionnūḡrearò
uapāileacēt
do clōinn luḡoine ir Tuacal · ir vōn nîoḡarò ó cḡuacāin,
180. amāil do reac ³ luḡarò rūinn · 'r mar do māorò mac vī
vōmnaill.
'S mār amlarò rīn fēarḡar vūib · a leac Moḡa cāirīl cūire
181. nī cūibāṡtar vō 1 rḡolāib · moṡ uḡvāir nā vēāḡ-ollām.
Caitṡro rāoite an cāoibē cūarò · 'r nī v'eāḡla nac vēarvāoir
buarò

¹ An vōmāin MSS. ² Cf. Wind. Ir. Texte I., p. 831. ³ "reacaim," "I recite," then "tell." Cf. "reacaire," one who recited bardic poems.

167. against the rightful princes for the ruin of their authority.
He would deserve the wrath of the rulers of both sides of this land
168. whose fixed principle it is especially for the guarding of their ancient pacts, and for the keeping of their realm in peace, and for the sake of their rights and crown,
169. to exact from fractious folk an oath of vassalage and obedience.
If it were lawful for the country not to keep its oath to its prince
170. what king is there in the world ¹ who would be thankful to be king? If one approves of nobles fighting to get the kingship,
171. nobles whom the kings reduce to subjection, and who swear obedience to the kings, where under Heaven is there a king of whom it could be said
172. that he was even for a single hour without "opposition"?
The kings Iughoine and Tuathal though unbelievers
173. bind to themselves and to their race the men of the West by a vow of obedience—unless perhaps you have found in your Scriptures that there is no obligation
174. on those who do not believe in the God of the Elements to keep the Natural Law! But that they can justifiably neglect to keep their bounden oaths,
175. and can shed each others' blood and woo ² each other's wives—such a thing is not said by any prophet and cannot be said
176. without incurring the dire wrath of God and of the saints on earth.

Look now O Leath Mogha! Do you see the fool's tonsure on Tadhg

177. after all the excessive confidence Clann Cais placed in his streams of wisdom! Is he not shorn from ear to ear by a single friar from the North,
178. who, judging him by the ancient documents, shows no respect to his genealogy or his learning, as he cannot prove false what is written about Leath Cuinn of the hosts,
179. namely that the Gaedhil gave up their own claims and swore vassalage to the race of Iughoine and Tuathal and to the kings from Cruachain,
180. as Lughaidh told ³ us and Aodh O Domhnaill too.
If that be the way he stands by you, O Leath Mogha of Corc's Caiseal,
181. he will not get in the schools the respect due to author or good sage.

The Northern sages—not that they fear they could not defeat him otherwise!—

182. ταςρα μόραιν nae bia ceapc · pe fear all-ḡlōir zan
 eipeaēt
 leir nae paḡḡap oō vol ap · aēt tānpeam ap an peanēap.
 183. 'S munab le peanēap ḡpunn ḡēap · aēt le cuma a aḡnō
 fēin
 cūppeap poune Mac Oāipe · cornam rīōiḡ na pean-māiḡe
 184. oo ḡēaba fear a fpeasra · nae fēapfa corḡ a tēanḡa
 o'fōir-labpa lāin oo leit Cūinn · aḡ rōir-pāō peiceaō¹
 capuill.
 185. Tuḡ a t'arōḡ ḡē taoi rōi-ḡlic · ḡup eīpḡ oīb toirḡ
 ḡōroipḡ²
 aḡ tairḡrin tāir ap tōrna · fāp lēiḡ tairip oīomioḡōāō
 186. fa zan teaeēt i n-aḡarō llēill · Ua Tuaeal 'r luḡoine fēil
 ḡā paibe a o'tāniḡ poune · ruar ip in fēim pōḡpaḡde
 187. ḡo Mīleaō Eapḡaine oḡ ēin · na pōḡaib ap fīaō fūmō
 aēt maō naonbap oā aīle · ip oētap pa n-luḡoine
 188. tḡē an-fīaīte oīob oo ḡaipm · an ēlann rin ēibip oo tairḡ
 pḡḡe pḡp o'ēip ḡaē ēaēta · mōro umla 'r uaipealaēta.
 189. Oo paō ēipe rin ḡo lēip · oo Tuaeal 'r oā oēiḡ-fpēim
 map oo cūmniḡ ḡo fearaē · a oḡpe mall mac Eacāē
 190. i o'tḡāē ταςρα pe tōrna · aḡ caoimna ceapc a aēapōa
 ip in pann i na poubairc · naē tioḡpaō baile i Muimain
 191. oo plioēt ēibip fīinn zan tḡoro · nō cōip ap oo ēlōinn
 Tuaeal.
 Oḡ lēip io bḡaēpaib maīte · ḡo bḡuile aḡ oēanm aipḡ
 192. o'ēip bap paōtair oo Oāl ḡCair · ionn ḡaē ēaḡcōip oā
 noeapḡap
 aōam anoir o ēpōe · ap oo bḡaīteḡ map oīḡe
 193. aḡ iarpārō maīte oo pēip · map mūineap bḡaēpa an
 tḡoipḡēil;
 ap leit Moḡa ap a noeapḡap · ēaḡcōip pe Oāl an oeaḡ-Cair,
 194. 'r ap leit Cūinn oo tairḡeaō lib · oo ēup fa ēiaḡ lēc
 fūiḡlib;
 ap an ēiḡpe oo buime · ip a mallaeēt oo tūillip;
 195. 'r ap t'ḡine fēin oār tūill rīb · oīomōa ip mō-ḡnaoi fear
 bḡuimō;
 'r ap aīme nēibip uile · oār ōean tupa pēo ēpōime
 196. ap leiḡeaō ḡo io peaēa · oo pōḡaib zan mēpeaēaō;
 'r ap Oāl ḡCair poō cūip i ḡcēim · oā naēap tūillip caīē-
 pēim.

¹? perhaps referring to visions, etc.? but bull-hides were used (K II. 348).

² For the legend whence ḡōroipḡ gets this sense, cf. Kilk. Arch. Jour., 1912, vol. 42, p. 106; Gadelica I., p. 171 303

182. will have to allege many falsehoods against this man of vain boastful language, by means of which language however he will not escape though he take to abusing true history (?).
183. If it be not by means of accurate correct history, but by means of the inventions of his own brain that Mac Daire propose to defend the folk of the Maigh
184. he will get a man to answer him whose tongue he will not, by his everlasting talk of horse-hides,¹ be able to check from giving a full answer for Leath Cuinn.
185. See, Tadhg, clever as you are, you have undertaken a useless² task in insulting Torna for his refraining from abuse, and
186. for his not attacking Niall descendant of Tuathal and of noble Iughoine (Niall whose ancestors before him were in the regnal lists
187. back to his ancestor Mile of Spain as kings over the Land of the Sunset except only nine after and eight before Iughoine)
188. when Niall gave the name "usurpers" to Eibhear's race which strove against him (Niall) after all their crimes and after their oaths of vassalage.
189. Eire undoubtedly yielded that vassalage to Tuathal and to his goodly race, as was wisely recalled by Tuathal's heir, Niall mac Eochach,
190. when disputing with Torna in defence of his ancestral rights, in the verse where he said he would not give a townland in Mumha
191. to Eibhear Fionn's race without a fight, or else without getting its rent for Tuathal's race.
- Since it is clear from your gentle words that you are making reparation
192. for all your (wrongful) efforts on behalf of Dal gCais, and for the injustice you have committed, confess now from the bottom of your heart asking your own folk as is right
193. for pardon as the Gospel tells you to do ; asking Leath Mogha's pardon for the injustice you have done to fair Cas' race ;
194. asking pardon of Leath Cuinn which you strove to cover with shame by your words ; asking pardon of Poetry your foster-mother whose curse you have merited ;
195. and asking pardon of your own race on whom you have brought the anger and displeasure of the folk of the Sunset Land ; asking pardon of all Eibhear's race from whom you, by your new-fangled history, have robbed
196. those of their kings who have been left them hitherto ; asking pardon of Dal gCais who put you in a position of power and for whom you certainly have not won glory !

197. 'S mar do maō Corc ceap do mhall · tabair do luğair a ma;
 aš maō ar can fur an ríš · mea culpa peccavi.
198. Ofráil t'urruigíte iarróin · do ōia le haitrige nglóin
 ir maiéim-re ōuit a-noir · muom féine šac a nōearndair;
 199. ir aitéim oir ōiolšad ōūn · šo ōtuilleam ríot ōé na nōūl
 tré ar ríot anro i ngleann na nōear · ir naē deacmaoir
 ar ain-eol
200. aīhal dōubairt Topna · ór demūn fir na talma
 do ceac i nōáil do bpeite · aš ro a Ćríort do coimeirge.¹

šé saóile.

197. As Corc in the South yielded to Niall, so do you yield to Lughaidh saying what Corc said to the king, "Through my fault have I sinned."
198. Offer your prayers, then, to God with pure contrition, and I pardon you now all you have done to me ;
199. and I ask you to pardon me so that we may win the peace of God through being at peace with each other in this vale of tears, and that we may not walk the path of folly,
200. since as Torna said, it is certain that the men of earth are going to be judged by Thee, O Christ ! This is what we pray ¹ of Thee !

¹ " Comairc," "supplication, cf. Gl. Wb. 3rd 19. Confused with "comairce," "protection" (?)

ní sūais liom é-urcár a doó. τὰὺς μετὰίρε cct.

- I. Ní sūair liom é-urcár a doó · bíod go mbíoir tions
deas-¹laóc
rḡáthar petairm sūr anoir · é-airm féin ní hiaḡ do ḡlacair.
2. An t-airm nua a hlic í ōmnaill · ararḡ aíl do lám
o'foglum
luḡaroe ip baḡḡal do neac · ní fuil ré ro lám go díneac.
3. Do ḡaol mé a hlic í ōmnaill · sūr ḡnát aḡaib ceart
comlum
neac ar a mbiaḡ fear 'r a luét · ní iur baḡ caíte é-urcár.
4. Atá an fite an fear dāna · 'r an tí ḡlacar naom-ḡrāḡa
aḡ cur oram pe naitle · aḡaib 'r go fíu an úcair.
5. Má do caíteir fear mar cāc · é-urcár riom ní móroe ar rḡát
beas mo bḡiḡ na caíteam ōuro · rḡinnro na hairm don
carras.
6. Atá leactrom oram a doó · ar fear ar n-aḡnir ar don
oircear dām a ftoinneac roim · amail a-²dear im deaḡar.
7. Learḡ liom mar onḡir oot fuil · bḡeas do tūba i n-aḡar
fuit
a leigean oram ip learḡ dām · nem-learḡ do dān ré dēanam.³
8. Ní nār leat ná ōuit a doó · dā dcaḡra iḡ reanḡur claon
baḡ nār liom-ḡa ar mo loḡ · claonaḡ riolla i reanḡar.
9. Ní baḡ toibēm don taobḡ tūar · am-learḡ mé fá aḡtur uaim
aḡbar bēime don taobḡ cear · earḡarḡ liḡ é mar aḡnear.
10. Tar ḡac leactrom dā bḡuil ann · i n-aḡm dē do cló do rann
malairt⁴ urcár uaim tar air · do bēar ar inneall⁵
é-amair.
- II. Do bēar mo fḡeasra fearḡa · ar bar nōān ḡá ní ar learḡa
ní i moḡ bḡur poi-binn liḡ · mé cūge ip marḡ do éiḡnḡ.

ní sūais.

¹ XVI. 15-20. ² *i.e.*, Torna. ³ Lughaidh. ⁴ R. McArthur. ⁵ A few MSS. have the following—*an t-ucair uilleac* “na hōḡlaro Muimnḡ a mbéal . na habmar mé ná [iona] tū : na labmar i ḡcār anḡis . do bí mipe mif[ḡ] fairu [ḡairu].” *An t-ucair Muimneac* do can an fḡeasra ro “leat eoḡain ceart cḡoḡa ip úipe rluais . plaḡróḡ na bḡleat n-óil nac dūbmaḡ a ḡeuar : ḡan ḡlarḡoḡa reamḡós na ḡcūir do luac . laibeorra d’aimḡeoin na cūge tūar.” ⁶ *i.e.*, XVIII. ⁷ ? “nem-learḡ do dān ré dēanam” ; “am-learḡ dāmra in dēanam,” MSS. ⁸ Gen. “malairt,” cf. “*je luét malairt an marḡar*,” *p.* ón cāinte, RIA. 23 L. 17, p. 103, v. 15. ⁹ Dealing with, adjusting, managing, etc., cf. “indell” Wind. Wōrt ; also “*go rilleac na rúl ní fuil . fúm aḡt inneal ar olcail*” ; “*ar ríuḡ innil aobḡaine . ríuḡm iúl ar óḡ-muire*” ; “*ḡiōḡ-mārcac innil eic ōuib*,” A. Ó Dálaḡ, TCD. 1340, p. 51, v. 13 ; RIA. 23 G. 23, p. 148, v. 10 ; G. 24, p. 180, v. 7 ; “*r do ní a haimnear-ḡa d’inneal*,” S. Mac an bairr, RIA. 23 C. 33, p. 236, v. 15 ; “*ón eim innilte póro-mín*,” C. McOáipe, RIA. 23 G. 24, p. 28, v. 25. ¹⁰ XVIII.

[This is a formal poem answering XV., and apparently an introduction to XVIII. which answers the same poem in detail. It is subsequent (cf. v. 4) to the McArthur poems. It is headed in Z. M. L.² by the words "Soisín comhparó annro ó Éadós mac Dáiríe ar doó Ó Domnaill me noul i scomaró ffreasna so éadairt ar so méir uirto asallma," and in L. G.³, by "Roḡa an comhparó annro ó Éadós macDáiríe ar doó Ó Domnaill ma noul i scean ffreasna so éadairt ar a óán so méir uirto asallma." In N² there occurs a detached stanza:—

"Caitéarad uiréar leat a Éadós · élaoiréar tú ór ḡad airt: 1 neirir ar laḡraó lín · ioir an dá mac roin míleas," on which, in his description of the MS., O'Curry says: "I have never seen this quatrain before, and have often wondered what could be the meaning of the first line of McBrody's answer in reference to O'Donnell's other poem." Can not this "first line of McBrody" refer quite appositely to XV. 18-20 ?].

1. I fear not your shot, O Aodh ! though the host of good warriors feared your arms till now. Not your proper arms have you now taken up.
2. This new arm (poetry) O son of O¹ Domnaill, which you would wish your hand to learn, is of little danger to anyone. You cannot hold it straight.
3. I thought you practised fairness in fight ! You should not have shot at a man with whom another man and his folk with him are engaged.¹
4. The poet,² the rimer,³ the man in orders,⁴ and even the fuller⁵ among you are all attacking me.
5. If you, like the rest of them, have aimed at me I fear not your shafts over much. Little reck I of your shooting them. They glance off the rock.
6. I am hardly treated, O Aodh, in this contention. It is right that I say what I shall now say.⁶
7. Through respect for your blood I like not to refute your falsehoods. Yet to let them rest on me (unrefuted) I like not either. Your art is over-ready to invent them.⁷
8. You are not disgraced, nor ashamed, O Aodh, in perverting history in your argument. I should be ashamed that the perversion of a jot of history should be found after me.
9. Anything by way of reproach to the North I am loath to bring forward. Anything to revile the South you love to use as argument.
10. In return for the harsh words in your poem, in God's name, to refute your verses, I will send other⁸ shots back to deal with⁹ your attack.
11. I will now give you, though unwillingly, my reply¹⁰ to your poem in a way that you shall not find pleasant. So much the worse for forcing me to it !



Dollan
Fonbad Éilim
Tis an Cló
baile-áta-Cliait

IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

7 Brunswick Square, London, W.C. 1.

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THE IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY was established in 1898 for the purpose of publishing texts in the Irish language, accompanied by such introductions, English translations, glossaries, and notes as may be deemed desirable.

The Annual Subscription is 7/6 (American subscribers, two dollars), payable on January 1st of each year, on payment of which members will be entitled to receive, post free, the current volume or, at the option of the member, any one of the earlier volumes which may still be available. There is no entrance fee.

The payment of a single sum of £5 (colonial or foreign members £5 5s. 0d.; American members 27 dollars), entitles to life membership. Life members will receive one copy of each volume issued subsequently to the receipt of this sum by the Society.

Vols. I., II. and III. are now out of print and others are rapidly becoming scarce. The ordinary sale price to non-members is 10/6 per volume (post free).

The Council makes a strong appeal to all interested in the preservation and publication of Irish Manuscripts to join the Society and to contribute to its funds, and especially to the Editorial Fund, which has been established for the remuneration of Editors for their arduous work.

NOTE Change of Address.

All communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary,
7 Brunswick Square, London, W.C. 1.

IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

THE Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Irish Texts Society was held on 1st February, 1919, at 20 Hanover Square, W.1.

Mr. R. Flower, Chairman of the Executive Council, presided. The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were taken as read.

The Hon Secretary read the

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

The long illness of Professor Douglas Hyde during the summer months has delayed the publication of his volume "The Wars of Charlemagne" (Sabadatar Séptuair Mór), which for a time had to be laid aside. Since his recovery, however, the Editor has worked hard on the completion of the book, and it is now practically through the press. The book may be expected by our members very shortly.

The present great cost of printing has obliged the Council to hold back for some months the issue of Rev. Lambert McKenna's edition of the "Contention of the Bards," a costly work to produce at the present time. It has been decided to produce the book in two parts, and the first part, which is passing through the press, will shortly appear. It will form the Society's volume for 1918. The Council have to thank Fr. McKenna for the patience he has exercised throughout their dealings with him, and for his consideration of the difficulties in which the Council have been placed in producing their books while such high prices for printing and paper still rule. Fr. McKenna's main work on this book was completed some months ago.

The Council have been glad to receive from Professor Tadhg O'Donnchadha and Miss Eleanor Knott the assurance that their volumes on "The Poems of the O'Neills of Clanaboy" and "The Poems of Tadhg Dall O'Higgin" are approaching completion. The Council have thus on hand a most important and interesting series of books, and if their funds were more equal to the work that lies before the Society much more rapid progress in publication could be made. They appeal to the Irish public and to those interested in the publication of Irish prose and poetry of the past to put it in their power, by an increase of membership and by donations or legacies, to produce more rapidly the existing

remains of Irish literature. The Council feel that in this, the 21st year of the existence of the Society, they can appeal with confidence for further help having regard to the work they have already done. The publication of 18 annual volumes and of two Irish Dictionaries in the course of twenty years of existence and on the small subscription of 7/6 per annum is a record in which the Council feel cause of legitimate satisfaction. But more remains to be done, and the Council hope to receive increased financial support to enable the work of the Society to be pushed forward more rapidly by the more speedy publication of the volumes still awaiting their chance to appear.

The great anxiety facing the Council at the present time arises out of their determination that Irish studies must not be allowed to languish for lack of their Dictionary, so unfortunately destroyed by fire, but that they would face the risk and heavy cost of re-publication on an enlarged scale of Fr. Dinneen's excellent book ; a book that, more than any other single publication, has pushed on the study of the Irish language, and the possession of which is essential to every student. The response to the Society's appeal for guarantors has not been at all what might have been expected at a time when the study of Irish is extending in every part of the country. Save for a generous grant of £50 from the Gaelic League of London and the kind offers of one or two special friends of the work, the response has been very meagre. The £200 promised in loans will go a very short way towards a work upon which the Editor is likely to be engaged for his entire time during four years or more. The cost of printing and publication together will probably amount to a total of over £1,500.

The Council are placed in the embarrassing position of having allowed their indefatigable Editor to begin a work for which they have not at the present time the means to ensure publication. Thus, unless the public comes to the help of the undertaking the publication must necessarily be indefinitely postponed. Meanwhile, the Society is annually losing the steady income from Dictionary sales which has enabled it to supplement its income and to produce volumes much larger and more costly than would otherwise have been possible out of the small annual subscription. At such a time of stress as the last four years have been, the loss of the funds accruing from sales of the Dictionary has been severely felt, and to this is largely owing the late production and the decreased size of the annual volumes now being issued by the Society.

We regret to report the decease of the following members :—
 Piaras MacCanna, M.P. ; Professor R. Brünnow, Lieut.-Col.
 Bryan J. Jones, Thomas F. Keating.

The following is a full list of the life members of the Society :—

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS.

Miss Eleanor Hull and Mrs. O'Kinealy.

LIFE MEMBERS.

G. P. Byrne	Paul Herrick Kelly
Very Rev. J. Canon Coholan, P.P., V.F.	Hon. A. L. Lewis
Rev. M. J. Curran	Wm. McArthur McInnes
J. P. Dalton	Jos. O'Carroll, M.D.
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Professor Y. M. Goblet	His Honor Judge O'Connor, K.C.
Rev. C. T. Harley-Walker	Rev. T. O'Sullivan
Miss Mary A. Hollingworth	Rev. M. Sheehan, D.D.

The following new ordinary members have joined or re-joined the Society during the year :—

John Beckett	Art O'Brien
E. A. Boyd	Diarmuid O'Concubair.
George Boyle	Risteard O'Concubair
Rev. J. Casey, C.C.	P. O h-Annrachain.
John J. Clarke	P. Powell
Jos. J. Galbally	C. J. Saurin
Rev. W. Holland, C.C.	Prof. J. A. Smith, LL.D.
Sir Lucas King, C.S.I., LL.D.	James Stephens
Mrs Rose MacKenna	Sean Toibin
A. MacLochainn	Proinsias Ua Gadhra.
Rev. S. MacCunnigam	Rev. J. A. Walsh

On the proposal of Mr. Samuel Boyle, seconded by Rev. T. O'Sullivan, the Report was adopted.

The Financial Statement and Balance Sheet were then presented by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Boyle, and were adopted on the proposal of Dr. Crone, seconded by Mr. James Buckley, and carried.

The re-election of the outgoing members of the Council, Mrs. M. M. Banks, Mr. D. J. O'Sullivan and Mr. Ernest Rhys, was carried on the proposal of the Rev. T. O'Sullivan, seconded by Dr. Crone.

The re-election of Professor Douglas Hyde as President of the Society was carried on the proposal of Dr. England, seconded by Mr. Ernest Rhys, and that of the Hon. Secretary, Miss Eleanor Hull, and Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Samuel Boyle, on the proposal of the Rev. T. O'Sullivan, seconded by Dr. England.

NOTE.—It has been decided to suspend for this year the publication of the list of names and addresses of members of the Society.

THE IRISH TEXTS SOCIETY.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1918.

THE SOCIETY'S ORDINARY PUBLICATIONS.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions, Ordinary	109	2	6	By Balance from previous			
„ „ Life	50	10	0	Account	281	7	10
„ Donations and Extras	10	8	10	„ Salary and Postage	35	16	3
„ Interest on Investments	22	0	0	„ Printing and Binding	27	15	8
Simpkin Marshall's a/c	46	5	11	„ Sundries	14	19	11
Balance	121	12	5				
Total	£359	19	8	Total	£359	19	8

THE SOCIETY'S IRISH-ENGLISH DICTIONARIES.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Receipts already published	3675	14	1	By Payments previously published	2678	17	3
„ Guarantee Fund and Donations	119	9	2	„ Printing and Binding	25	16	2
				„ Editing and Sundries	94	5	2
				„ Balance	996	4	8
Total	£3795	3	3	Total	£3795	3	3

THE SOCIETY'S JOINT CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

ASSETS.				LIABILITIES.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance (brought down)	996	4	8	By Balance (brought down)	121	12	5
				Net Assets.			
				Investments	485	0	0
				Petty Cash—			
				In Secretary's hands	5	0	0
				Cash in Bank	384	12	3
Total	£996	4	8	Total	£996	4	8

(Signed) SAM. BOYLE, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Examined Books, Accounts, and Balances, and found correct.

(Signed) C. R. COOKE-TAYLOR, } *Auditors.*
T. V. O'SULLIVAN, }

NOTE.—The Council desires to express its thanks to the Auditors for their kindness in examining and auditing the accounts of the Society.

GENERAL RULES.

OBJECTS.

1.—The Society is instituted for the purpose of promoting the publication of Texts in the Irish Language, accompanied by such Introductions, English Translations, Glossaries and Notes as may be deemed desirable.

CONSTITUTION.

2.—The Society shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, an Executive Council, a Consultative Committee and Ordinary and Life Members.

OFFICERS.

3.—The Officers of the Society shall be the President, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

4.—The entire management of the Society shall be entrusted to the Executive Council, consisting of the Officers of the Society and not more than ten other Members, to whom the Executive Council may add by Co-option not more than two members, who shall retire annually.

5.—All property of the Society shall be vested in the Executive Council, and shall be disposed of as they shall direct by a two-thirds majority.

6.—Three Members of the Executive Council shall retire each year by rotation at the Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election, the Members to retire being selected according to seniority of election, or, in case of equality, by lot. The Council shall have power to co-opt Members to fill up casual vacancies occurring throughout the year. Any Member of Council who is absent from five consecutive Ordinary Meetings of the Council to which he (or she) has been duly summoned, shall be considered as having vacated his (or her) place on the Council.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

7.—The Consultative Committee, or individual Members thereof, shall give advice, when consulted by the Executive Council, on questions relating to the Publications of the Society, but shall not be responsible for the management of the business of the Society.

MEMBERS.

* 8.—Members may be elected either at the Annual General Meeting, or from time to time, by the Executive Council.

SUBSCRIPTION.

9.—The Subscription for each Member of the Society shall be 7/6 per annum (American subscribers, two dollars), entitling the Member to one copy (post free) of the volume published by the Society for the year, and giving the right to vote on all questions submitted to the General Meetings of the Society. The payment of a single sum of £5 (Colonial or foreign members £5 5s. 0d., American members 27 dollars) entitles to life membership. Life members will receive one copy of each volume issued subsequently to the receipt of this sum by the Society.

10.—Subscriptions shall be payable in advance on the 1st January in each year.

11.—Members whose Subscriptions for the year have not been paid are not entitled to any volume published by the Society for that year, and any Member whose Subscription for the current year remains unpaid, and who receives and *retains* any publication for the year, shall be held liable for the payment of the full published price of such publication.

12.—The Publications of the Society shall not be sold to persons other than Members, except at an advanced price.

13.—Members whose Subscriptions for the current year have been paid shall alone have the right of voting at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

14.—Members wishing to resign must give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary, before the end of the year, of their intention to do so: otherwise they will be liable for their Subscriptions for the ensuing year.

EDITORIAL FUND.

15.—A fund shall be opened for the remuneration of Editors for their work in preparing Texts for publication. All subscriptions and donations to this fund shall be purely voluntary, and shall not be applicable to other purposes of the Society.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

16.—A General Meeting shall be held each year in the month of January, or as soon after as the Executive Council shall determine, when the Council shall submit their Report and the Accounts of the Society for the preceding year, and when vacant seats on the Council shall be filled up, and the ordinary business of a General Meeting transacted.

AUDIT.

17.—The Accounts of the Society shall be audited each year by auditors appointed at the preceding General Meeting.

CHANGES IN THESE RULES.

18.—With the notice summoning the General Meeting, the Executive Council shall give notice of any change proposed by them in these Rules. Ordinary Members proposing any change in the Rules must give notice thereof in writing to the Honorary Secretary seven clear days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

LIST OF IRISH TEXT SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS.

(Out of print).

- (1.) ΣΙΟΥΛΑ ΔΗ ΦΙΟΥΣΑ. [The Lad of the Ferule].
 ΕΔΕΥΡΑ ΚΛΟΙΜΝΕ ΡΙΣ ΝΑ Η-ΙΟΥΔΑΙΩΕ [Adventures of the
 Children of the King of Norway].
 (16th and 17th century texts).

Edited by
 PROFESSOR DOUGLAS HYDE, D.LITT., LL.D

(Out of print).

- (2.) ΠΕΘ ΒΡΙΚΡΙΝΟ [The Feast of Bricriu].
 (From Leabhar na h-Uídhre, with conclusion from
 Gaelic MS. XL. Advocates' Lib., and variants from B. M.
 Egerton, 93 ; T.C.D. H. 3. 17 ; Leyden Univ., Is Vossii lat.
 4^a. 7).

Edited by GEORGE HENDERSON, M.A., PH.D.

Out of print. See New Edition (Volume 3a).

- (3.) ΟΔΝΤΑ ΔΟΘΑΣΑΙΝ ΟΙ ΡΑΧΙΛΛΕ [The Poems of Egan
 O'Rahilly]. Complete Edition.

Edited, chiefly from MSS. in Maynooth College, by
 REV. P. S. DINNEEN, M.A.

(Volume for 1909.) (See No. 3.)

- (3A.) New Edition of the Poems of Egan O'Rahilly.

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